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Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 7, NO. 2
January 8, 1926.
(Contents Confidential)

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1a. WESTERN NEW YORK CROP AND MARKET NOTES:

The following report was received from A. E. Prugh, of the Rochester office, under date of January 6:-

"Cabbage prices in western New York advanced sharply at the close of the year. On Saturday, January 2, a top of $50 per ton was reached on wire orders. This brought out rather heavy shipments and the price dropped to $45 on the 4th, with a good demand at that figure. Satisfactory prices and good distribution have featured the market this season. Early in the fall, there was a brisk demand from the South on account of the late summer drought. Shipments from Virginia were light. Later, a heavy early freeze apparently damaged the Wisconsin crop considerably. Then early reports indicated a 20% decrease in Florida and Texas acreage. Storage cabbage in New York is showing quite a shrinkage. This was caused mostly by the heavy fall rains. It is very likely that about 2,500 cars will be shipped from the State after January 1. This will clean up rapidly, if shipments continue as heavy as at present. An f.o.b. market of at least $75 per ton is predicted before the season ends. On Monday (January 4), 95 cars were shipped to 50 cities in 21 States east of the Mississippi and also to Arkansas and Missouri.

"With colder weather during the holidays, onions developed a little strength at shipping points. The carlot market is generally ranging $2.50-$2.75, with occasionally an inspected car, grading 1½ inch minimum, bringing $3. The wet weather, in the fall, apparently also affected the keeping quality of onions. However, shippers with good stock feel that better prices will prevail before Texas onions arrive in the spring. That was the history of the late deal last season.

"The apple market contimues dull and a good many shipments are being consigned. The bearish storage report of December 1, both of the Department and of the International Apple Shippers' Association, was reflected in market conditions. Plenty of common storage Baldwins were moving January 1. Some think that the late market on real good stock will be satisfactory. With a very heavy crop in the State, entirely too much off-grade stock was shipped. It also appears that some stock passed through too much cold weather before being picked. Beginning the year, a generally dull market prevails, with common-storage A 2½ inch Baldwins at $3.75, and cold-storage A 2½ inch Greenings $5 and A 2½ inch McIntosh topping the list at $7.50-$7.75. Some sales of A 2½ inch cold-storage Baldwins were made toward the end of December at $4.25-$4.50.

"November prices were very good on New York celery, but most of the stock did not keep well in storage. The fall season was too wet and considerable celery was frosted. When taken from storage, the quality compared very unfavorably with the California celery that commenced to move rather early in heavy volume. Thereafter, during December, it was a consignment proposition in this State. Of course, some stock had been bought early and stored here by dealers in the large markets. Some f.o.b. sales were made around the

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first of the year at $2.50-$2.75 per crate, with a couple of cars at $3.00. If Florida shipments are fairly late, the New York deal may close strong, even with the inferior quality.

"The f.o.b. price of potatoes reached its first peak around November 1 at $6.60 per 150-pound sack, declined to $5.10 about December 1, and then reached $6.85 during the holidays. Commencing the new year, the market is a trifle easier. Farmers are getting $2.25-$2.50 bulk per bushel, and many are holding for $3.00. On the present market, by paying growers $2.50 per bushel for bulk potatoes, there is very little profit, if any, for the shippers. The representatives of the A. & P. Tea Company have advanced the price to the top figure at some points, in order to get the growers to sell. It appears that the very light crop, shown in the December estimate, was not exaggerated. So far, it has been a difficult proposition to force prices above a certain level, but dealers feel that, before spring is over, the f.o.b. price will be at least a dollar per sack higher.

"The carrot market looks somewhat better now, after reports were circulated about the carrot tops freezing down in South Texas. When California and Texas carrots began to arrive in some large cities during December, there was a weaker feeling in western New York. However, after the freeze in Texas, the f.o.b. market advanced to $1.75 sacked per 100 pounds, and New York City was quoting $2.00-2.25. The Campbell Soup Company, at Camden, N.J., buys a great many carrots in this section; in fact, without this outlet, distribution of the crop would usually be quite a problem."

2a. INDEX TO "AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION," YEAR 1925.

During the year 1925, the bi-weekly issues of the mimeographed paper, "Agricultural Cooperation," included 530 pages of excellent material on the work and development of agricultural cooperative organizations of all kinds. A complete index to this Volume III, Year 1925, of "Agricultural Cooperation" has now been issued, and copies are available on application. Even though only a few of the representatives of the F. & V. Division are on the mailing list for this paper, numerous others may desire a copy of the Index, so as to be able to ascertain readily just what material is available along the various fruit and vegetable lines.

3a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR JANUARY 2:

Page 5 - Special paragraphs on potatoes in the weekly review.
6 - Many Inspections in Oregon, - by F. E. Bailey.
7 - New Jersey Potatoes Hauled by Truck, - by E. R. Biddle.
- Unusual Record Made by California Fruit Growers' Exchange.
8 - California Artichoke Industry Expanding, - by C. J. Hansen and O. W. Holmes.
- California Crop Notes, - by H. D. Green.
- New Package for Idaho Potatoes, - by E. D. Mallison.
10 - Haulings by Truck to Los Angeles, - by H. A. Harris.
16 - Good Outlook for American Raisins in Great Britain.

4a. MORE NEWS OF DAMAGE BY COLD WAVE.

In addition to reports published on page 2 of the last D.L., the following information has been received regarding damage from the recent cold weather in the South:-

The Corpus Christi section of Texas reports that, owing to weather conditions after the low temperatures, there is little or no visible damage. In the Lower Valley, south of Harlingen, a recent survey indicates freeze damage to cabbage approximately 20% of expected yield, with a tendency to develop taller heads. Peak of movement of late stock probably latter part March or first of April. Beans, squash and cauliflower were all killed, but the bulk of the crop is already harvested. Too few fall potatoes in ground to consider. Heavy plantings of potatoes are expected to begin January 15. Some citrus damage indicated but extent undetermined.

A wire of January 5, from J. A. Hunter, reads as follows:- "Harlingen north Lower Valley indicates 30% yield cut in young cabbage, which is 75% of the acreage. Quality stuff move couple days probably uninjured. March-April tonnage still questionable. Probably many small, some puffy heads. Spinach badly spotted. Other commodities same as previous wire. Damage citrus by ice breaking loaded limbs considerable in trees four-year old and over. Nursery stock badly burned but injury believed slight, as few frozen below buds. First sunshine in week this afternoon at San Antonio."

In South Carolina, the freeze apparently did very little damage. The only crops killed outright were radishes, carrots and beets. The acreage grown of these crops was so small that they need not be considered. The spring planting of these three crops had not been made, and the winter crop above ground is of no importance. While the spinach crop escaped, the movement will be delayed at least two weeks.

The spring cabbage crop in South Carolina, which was mostly set out from the first week in December up to the 20th, was not damaged. The plants in the seed beds had gone through more or less cold weather and they were very tough, which accounts for the fact that they stoood the freeze. At first it was thought that the winter cabbage crop would be wiped out, but it now seems that very little damage was done to the crop except to delay maturity. Headed cabbages in the fields were frozen stiff, but after thawing out they do not seem to be any worse for the experience. The younger plants are checked, and, as stated, the freeze had the effect of delaying the movement of the winter crop, but this may be of an advantage rather than an injury.

Writing on January 6 from Norfolk, Va., H. H. Henderson said:- "It seems that the rain during the last few days has practically offset the damage done to the kale crop during the recent cold spell, and the damage to the spinach crop appears to be slight, as indicated in my wire of December 29. In fact, the general opinion seems to be that the damage to spinach is negligible."

5a. FOREIGN MARKET REPORT ON ONIONS.

The latest release by the Foreign Marketing Section is designated as F.S.:O-12, and is entitled "Spanish Onion Shipments to December 26." The Valencia onion market is reported as very weak.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. NEW SYSTEM OF MAIL REPORTS OF SHIPMENTS.

All agents at stations originating carlot shipments of fresh fruits and vegetables report such shipments by mail to this Bureau. For the past few years, each agent has been expected to render a monthly mail report on a large sheet, designated as Form TR-9. Across the top of this sheet were the days of the month and along the left margin were the names of the 38 products on which reports were to be made. The plan was to have the agent make a daily record of forwardings, and then submit the sheet at end of the month. Circularization of the list of agents developed the fact that scarcely half the agents maintained a daily record on Form TR-9, and therefore this form has been abandoned.

Effective January 1, 1926, all agents will use a monthly post-card report, designated as Form FV-29, and this report is to be rendered only for those months during which the station originates shipments of fruits and vegetables. For their own convenience or to meet requirements of their particular road, agents also will be supplied with a pad of sheets, known as Form FV-28. These are designed to help the agent keep a daily running record of forwardings, and are really "work sheets," to be used as a basis for filling out the monthly post-card report.

In order that all technical employees of the F. & V. Division may be fully informed, and so that they may talk intelligently with any agent who discusses the new mail-report forms, specimen copies of FV-28 and FV-29, together with copies of the circular letters addressed to agents and to general officials of the transportation companies, are being sent to all our men with this Division Letter. Please examine this material carefully.

2b. SHARP ADVANCE IN TEXAS SPINACH PRICES.

In a letter of December 28, J. Austen Hunter, of the San Antonio office, wrote in part: "This has been one of the most interesting days that I have everyexperienced in the spinach deal, an almost perfect combination for a demoralized spinach market having been most unexpectedly thrown over by the severe temperature drop. **** The effect of the low temperatures on trading was very interesting. I saw one shipper who operates from San Antonio refuse 75¢ a bushel for a car of spinach that he rolled Thursday in desperation because he couldn't get even a 50¢ bid and a Kansas City receiver refused to accept on consignment. Another shipper at Laredo told me over the phone this afternoon that he refused $1.00 f.o.b. for a roller which he had in St. Louis today. Still another San Antonio operator said he had a couple of rollers out, on which he wouldn't consider any shipping-point price. Compared with a very dull market just before the holidays, one local operator stated that he had received 65 wires today for quotations, mostly on rollers."

3b. HIGH PRICES FOR STRAWBERRIES.

E. R. Biddle reported that one refrigerator of strawberries sold in Philadelphia on December 30 at $4 per quart,- the highest price ever known. This refrigerator contained 69 quarts of berries. It will be remembered that Mr. Stanton reported the first arrivals of Florida strawberries selling in New York on December 11 at $3 per quart.

E. W. STILLWELL,
Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably Will Close
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	Mrs. L.B. Gerry	Apples	Aug. 24	Mar. 15
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO 230 Federal Bldg.	845	E. D. Mallison W. F. Cox	Potatoes	Sept. 2	Apr. 30
ROCHESTER, N.Y.* * 419 Triangle Bldg.	837	A. E. Prugh	Apples	Sept. 4	Apr. 1
			Pears*	Sept. 4	Oct. 31*
			Cabbage	Sept. 4	Mar. 1
			Onions	Sept. 14	Mar. 1
			Peaches*	Sept. 14	Oct. 3*
			Celery	Sept. 16	Jan. 15
			Potatoes	Sept. 16	Apr. 1
			Grapes*	Sept. 21	Oct.31*
			Carrots	Sept. 23	Mar. 1
PRESQUE ISLE, ME. Graves Hardware Block	842	H. E. Rutland	Potatoes	Sept. 8	Apr. 1
WAUPACA, WIS.** Court House	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 14	Apr. 30
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.** 419 Federal Bldg. MAIL: P.O.Box 86.	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Apples*	Oct. 7	Nov. 24*
			Potatoes	Oct. 7	June 1
			Onions	Oct. 7	Mar. 1
ORLANDO, FLA.** 20 Phillips Bldg. MAIL: P.O. Box 188.	920	R . H. Lamb	Citrus Fruit	Nov. 2	Apr. 15
EL CENTRO, CALIF. Barbara Worth Hotel	933	C. E. Schultz	Lettuce	Jan. 4	Apr. 10

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

SANFORD, FLA.**	910	J. D. Evers	Celery	Jan. 18	Apr. 10
BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS**	931	G. E. Prince	Cabbage	Feb. 1	May 1
			Beets & Carrots	Feb. 1	May 1
			Lettuce	Feb. 1	Feb. 27
			Potatoes	Mar. 15	May 1
			Stg.Beans	Apr. 1	May 1
			Tomatoes	Apr. 15	May 1

** State cooperating. * Reports discontinued.

TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENTS:

R. L. Sutton)
H. A. Harris)in Chicago.
W. D. Googe)

J. D. Evers in Washington office.
G. E. Prince on leave at Greenville, S. C.
F. S. Kinsey in Los Angeles office.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. IMPORTANT FEATURES OF CALIFORNIA APPLE PACKING LAW.

Under date of December 30, W. F. Allewelt, Chief of the Bureau of Fruit and Vegetable Standardization, at Sacramento, sent the following information regarding California laws:-

"We have noticed in the Division Letter dated December 18, 1925, pages 637 and 638, a statement from A. W. Hansen, Chief of the Seattle Station of Food and Drug Inspection, to the effect that considerable embarrassment to the inspection service is often occasioned by the fact that apple containers are not marked to conform with the requirements of the U.S. Bureau of Chemistry. He states that either 'Contents one bushel' or 'Net weight 40 lbs.' would comply with the requirements of this Act.

"In this connection, we believe that it might be well to call the attention of the inspection service in other Western States to the requirements of our California law, applying to containers of apples grown, packed, shipped, imported, offered for sale or sold in the State of California. This requires specifically that all containers must be marked with the net weight of the contents. It further specifies that all containers must be marked either 'Extra Fancy,' 'Fancy,' 'C grade' or 'Unclassified,' and must conform to the requirements for the grade marked. We have not objected to the marking of containers as combination grades, but the use of the terms 'Orchard run,' 'Fourth grade,' 'Hail grade C, ' etc., is not permitted. Such containers, to meet the requirements of the California law, mustbe marked 'Unclassified.'

"Furthermore, we find that in some instances bushel baskets containing combination grades are faced with large, uniform, highly-colored apples, which are materially better than the remainder of thecontents of the package. The California State law does not permit this practice, which is barred under the head of deceptive pack.

"Growers and shippers in other States who expect tomarket their apples in California will save both themselves and their business connections trouble and losses in the handling of this fruit, if they will observe the provisions of the California law. We shall be pleased to forward to anyone interested copies of the California Fruit and Vegetable Standardization Act of 1925 and of the California Standard Apple Act, as amended in 1925."

2c. USE OF TERM "BLEMISHES".

Because of misunderstanding, on the part of various members of the trade, of the term "blemishes" as used on potato certificates, it is believed that the more definite term "grade defects" should be used to cover such defects as are excluded from the grade. The trade is inclined to interpret the term "blemishes" as minor defects which are of no importance. I fully realize that the term has not been used in this way by our inspectors, but believe that the certificates will be much less likely to be misunderstood if the very definite expression "grade defects" be used. Example: "An average of 8% of grade defects, consisting of cuts, wire worm and scab."

3c. SUMMARY OF INSPECTION WORK IN MARYLAND.

The January 1 issue of the Market News Letter, issued by the Maryland State Department of Markets, College Park, Md., contains the following summary of shipping-point inspection work:

"The following is a summary of shipping-point inspections on Maryland fruits and vegetables for 1925:

"Service this season began on May 7 with strawberries and continued without a break until November 7, when the last of the apple crop was moved. During this six months' period, 6,472 cars of Irish potatoes, apples, strawberries, sweet potatoes, peaches, cucumbers, cantaloupes and early tomatoes were shipped from 81 points in the State. Of this number, 422 cars originated in Baltimore City; approximately 22% of the remaining 6,050 cars, originating at 33 of the 80 other shipping points, were inspected.

"It is difficult to estimate the actual monetary value of shipping-point inspection, but, from figures given by a number of the large shippers, the total estimated f.o.b. shipping-point valuation of 1,325 cars inspected was $1,187,077.25. The following table shows the number of cars of each commodity inspected, the estimated loading of each car, and the basis for arriving at this valuation: (Figures are copied as in original report.-Editor)

No. of cars	Product	Average load per car	Average value per unit	Total estimated f.o.b. value
470	Apples	175 bbls.	$3.60 per bbl.	$296,000.00
31	Peaches	400 bskts.	2.50 per bsk.	32,000.00
11	Tomatoes	500 crts.	2.00 per crt.	11,000.00
565	White potatoes	210 bbls.	5.27 per bbl.	625,285.50
77	Sweet potatoes	155 bbls.	3.37-7/8 bbl.	45,099.35
25	Cucumbers	400 bskts.	0.87½ per bsk.	8,750.00
128	Strawberries	240 crts.	5.33-2/3 crt.	163,942.40
18	Cantaloupes, approx. total 250,000 melons @ 2¢			5,000.00

"The indirect value of this service is even more difficult to determine, but it is reasonable to believe that, in every instance, the expense was more than justified. In several instances, shippers stated that material saving had been accomplished in claims and adjustments. In other cases, shippers stated that, without inspection, it would have been difficult for them to have made some of their sales 'stick,' especially on a declining market. Perhaps the greatest indirect value rendered by this service was the improvement in methods practiced by growers and shippers in the grading and packing of their products.

"As an illustration, one organization tried out the commercial production of cucumbers for the first time. Not having had previous experience in the grading, packing and marketing of this crop, they were at a loss to know just how to proceed. Advice and instructions were given as to how proper grading equipment could be installed; the selection of different grades was demonstrated, and the inspector showed the importance of proper methods of packing and saw to it that they were practiced. The result was that the organization successfully marketed 27 cars of this particular commodity.

"At another point, an organization handled for the first time early green-ripe tomatoes. They had known for years how to handle tomatoes for canning-house purposes but, when it came to shipping them as an early crop, they hardly knew how to proceed. As with the cucumber deal, this organization

(continued over)

was advised how to install adequate equipment; their grading and packing crews were trained, with the result that they were able to put out 10 cars of the commodity at prices which netted an average return of about $1.60 a bushel, or $1.00 for a 5/8 bushel basket. This figure, of course, did not represent the price paid for the entire crop, because of culls which were thrown out. But, when these so-called culls or rough tomatoes were allowed to ripen on the vine, they were readily sold to the local trade at prices which were estimated as covering the cost of their handling.

"Owing to the fact that neither State nor Federal funds were available for expense items incurred by inspectors in the performance of their duties, it was necessary that each applicant for inspection service bear his proportionate share of the cost. Because of widely-scattered points, variations in tonnage, and difference in time required to pack and load products in the various sections, the actual cost per car varied considerably. The average cost, however, for the entire season on 1,325 cars was $4.62 per car.

"Much credit is due the Inspection Division of the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics for cooperation rendered in all instances, and particularly for the very efficient cooperation of the inspectors detailed to the Maryland service. Altogether, 15 men were employed during the season, two of whom served continuously throughout the six months. So efficient were these inspectors in the performance of their duties that, without exception, the entire personnel has been requested for the next season. One of the heaviest shippers in the State has already filed his application for 1926 service, requesting that the same inspector be assigned to his packing house for a full six months' period."

4c. FLORIDA SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION WORK.

Inspections made at Florida shipping points during the period December 1 to 15 were as follows:-

Section	Grapefruit	Oranges	Tangerines	Mixed Citrus	Total
Clermont	0	3	0	2	5
DeLand	0	9	17	0	26
East Lake	1	1	0	1	3
Groveland	5	3	0	1	9
Lakeland	4	6	0	11	21
Leesburg	3	3	0	4	10
Mt. Dora	0	5	4	5	14
Ocala	0	7	0	9	16
Orlando	1	25	0	9	35
Palmetto	5	0	0	0	5
Tavares	2	4	2	0	8
Umatilla	0	10	2	7	19
Total	21	76	25	49	171
Previously reported	144	120	1	20	285
GRAND TOTAL	165	196	26	69	456

5c. GRADES FOR CANADIAN TURNIPS OR RUTABAGAS.

Attached to this Division Letter, each inspector will find a copy of the recommended grades for Canadian turnips or rutabagas, as published by the Dominion Department of Agriculture. Please be sure to read the reverse side of the sheet, which contains supplementary information on these grades.

6c. A NEW MIMEOGRAPHED SHEET ENTERS THE FIELD.

Welcome is extended to a sister publication, entitled "The Inspectors' Notes," published weekly for the confidential information of shipping-point inspectors in California. The plan of this paper is very much like that of our Division Letter. Number 1 of Volume 1 is dated January 1, 1926. Interesting items are given concerning the various inspections deals throughout the State of California, and the four-page paper ends with personal notes, similar to our Office Notes. These personal items have a very breezy, western style to them, and are more intimate than is usually the case in such publications. For example, in telling of the inspectors handling the Imperial Valley lettuce deal, the editor (whoever he is) groups the men into two classes, - the "old-timers" and the "tenderfeet." The latter class, he says, is fast developing into "first-class desert rats." A most interesting paper in every way. The following items are copied from the front page of the first issue:-

INTRODUCTION

We have decided, in order to keep all members of the Shipping-Point Inspection Service informed of developments throughout the State, to issue a confidential weekly news letter, to be sent to all employees. This will include not only information of general interest, but also instructions, and should be read carefully by all inspectors and office employees.

Furthermore, the interest in this letter will depend very largely on the cooperation of the men in charge of all deals. Some time ago instructions were issued to send to Sacramento weekly reports of the progress and prospects on each deal, and we believe that, if this is properly followed out, we will have no lack of interesting news for the letter.

Wm. F. Allewelt

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NEW YEAR'S GREETING

For the calendar year just closing, we have inspected approximately 53,000 cars of fruits and vegetables. In the new year let us exert every possible effort to make our work so accurate, thorough, and reliable that every car successfully can stand the acid test of reinspection in the receiving markets. By this we will increase the confidence in our work, not only of growers and shippers, but of the buyers in the markets, and the inspection service will become an indispensable factor in the marketing of the great crops of fruits and vegetables produced in California.

G. H. Hecke

Below is another item, taken from this issue of "The Inspectors' Notes:"

7c. CAULIFLOWER TRIMMING IN CALIFORNIA.

The 1925 cauliflower grades require that jacket leaves shall be "well trimmed." "Well trimmed' means that the number of jacket leaves shall be limited to those necessary to protect the head." In Colma it has been necessary to make a ruling that not more than 12 to 15 jacket leaves shall be left on the head when packed. The nature of the broccoli there tempted many packers to leave too many leaves, thus filling up the crate but making a poor pack-

8c. INSPECTION TRAINING CLASS SOON FINISHED WITH COURSE.

It is likely that the training class for inspectors, conducted in Chicago since early December, will have completed the course by the third week of January. The several men in this class will then be assigned to the various offices for further duty. The new address list of inspectors will be deferred until these assignments are made, so that the revised list may be as up-to-date as possible. The following anonymous bit of verse has just been received from Chicago:-

T R A I N I N G:

First you go to dear old Chi,
There to learn the reason why
Apples and tomatoes,
Onions and potatoes
Have always got
Some kind of rot.

Meet Doctor Link,-his stuff comes first;
Many a man his stuff has cursed.
Trying to learn his pathological views,
Usually puts you in continual stews.

Then you have a keen little man,
Doc. Ramsey's his name; he's a vegetable fan,
And he's the bird that gives you decay,-
Slips it to you in a convincing way.

While advancing in your learning
And trying to lose your homesick yearning,
Along comes Doctor Rose,
With his stiff and scholar-like pose.
He'll tell you of apples and, I'll tell you what,
He'll tell you of strawberries with their leather-neck rot.

And last but not least,
We have Butner and Russell,
Who'll tell with the handbook you'll have to hustle.
If the book you're not fighting,
You're certificate writing;-
Such is the life of a training inspector,
But it won't be long till the FINALS, by hector.

(Anon.)

F. G. ROBB,

Specialist in Inspection.

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Samson will represent this Bureau at the annual meeting of the Western Fruit Jobbers' Association, to be held at New Orleans from January 12 to 15. Mr. Tenny, who was to attend this gathering, is unable to go. The principal reason for Mr. Samson's presence at the convention is to present the Department's viewpoint in any discussion which may arise concerning the proposed standard trading rules for the fruit and vegetable industry. While in Louisiana, Mr. Samson will confer with C. R. Newton, our Supervising Inspector, and with Commissioner H. D. Wilson, at Baton Rouge. It is possible that Mr. Newton will go to New Orleans for some of the sessions of the convention.

A. E. Prugh, of the Rochester office, will attend a conference at Albany today, called by H. D. Phillips, Director of the State Bureau of Markets. The meeting is to consider the crop and market reporting work within the State, and others who will attend the conference are R. L. Gillett, the State Agricultural Statistician, and representatives of the Farm Bureaus and of the Agricultural College.

Before returning at the end of this week from the Chicago trade convention, Mr. Sherman probably will visit Civil Service eligibles in Iowa and at other points in the Middle West.

J. D. Evers will report for temporary duty in the Washington office today, before going to Sanford, Fla., as the opening of the Sanford field station hasbeen deferred one week. Only 10 cars of celery are expected before January 15.

Opening of the field station at Brownsville, Texas, also has been delayed until February 1, asaa result of the recent cold wave in the Lower Valley, and G. E. Prince may come to Washington for a week or two before going to Brownsville.

R. R. Pailthorp and P. D. Rupert will leave on Sunday for Suffolk, Va., and nearby points, where they will investigate the application of the Federal grades for farmers' stock peanuts. This work may occupy three or four days.

W. E. Lewis is in Baltimore today, attending a meeting of the Farm Bureau Federation of Maryland. He is conferring with parties interested in the grades for cannery tomatoes, particularly the Canning Crops Committee of the Federation.

M. L. Henry, who has been on leave without pay at Little Rock, Ark., for a few months, has now returned to duty on the New York City inspection staff.

J. G. Scott, of the Cincinnati office, addressed the December meeting of the local U.S.D.A. Club, and told especially of the radio broadcasting work in connection with the Market News Service.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

E. R. Biddle, of Philadelphia, is scheduled to address a meeting of New Jersey potato growers, at Trenton, next Monday, January 11. On the following Tuesday, January 19, he will make a similar address at the meeting of the State Vegetable Growers' Association, to be held at Harrisburg, Pa.

L. F. Butler, B.P.I. pathologist, whose headquarters are in Chicago, came to Washington last week to confer with B.P.I. officials and with Mr. Robb and others. This week Mr. Butler is in New York City, conferring with our inspectors on matters relating to fruit diseases.

Word has been received through R. L. Ringer, of the Portland office, that Vane G. Gibson, formerly in charge of the market reporting work in St. Louis, is now in the lumber business at Corvallis, Oregon, where he is a partner in the Independent Lumber Company.

After a month's vacation on a trip to the West Indies and Florida, H. V. DeMott, of the Washington staff, returned to duty today.

Herbert Graff spent some time, early this week, at Lynchburg, Va., inspecting five cars of Michigan potatoes at that point.

H. H. Henderson advises from Norfolk, Va., that he will be busy the next two weeks with the inspection of about 1,500,000 pounds of supplies for the Navy and probably will be unable to make many commercial inspections during that time. Most of the work for the Navy has to be done at Newport News, Va.

Please note the following residence addresses of inspectors, which have not been previously announced:-

H. A. Arenz, of Milwaukee, has moved recently to 751 Cramer Street.
J. E. Dickerson, of the Cincinnati office, is located at 5207 Globe Ave. Norwood, Ohio.
M. C. Gregory, of Fort Worth, is at 1204 Travis Ave.; phone Rosedale 584-W.
C. R. Newton, of Baton Rouge, La., resides at 2145 Oleander St.; phone 3293-J.
A. H. Polster, of the Philadelphia office, is at 216 South 53rd St.; phone Allegheny 0134.
G. W. Winfrey, of New Orleans office, resides at 448 Pine St.; phone Walnut 834-W.

DOMINION DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FRUIT BRANCH

OTTAWA

Recommended grades of Turnips or Rutabagas.

- - - - - - - -

Canada No. 1, small, shall consist of turnips which are firm, smooth, roundish in nature, properly trimmed, practically free from frost injury and water core, dirt, cracks, and damage caused by disease, insects, or mechanical or other means. The size shall be from 2 to 4 inches in diameter.

Canada No. 1, medium, shall consist of turnips which are firm, smooth, roundish in nature, properly trimmed, practically free from frost injury, water core, dirt, cracks and damage caused by disease, insects, or mechanical or other means. The size shall be from 4 to 6 inches in diameter.

Canada No. 1, large, shall consist of turnips which are firm, smooth, roundish in nature, properly trimmed, practically free from frost injury, water core, dirt, cracks, and damage caused by disease, insects, or mechanical or other means. The size shall be from 5 to 7 inches in diameter.

Canada No. 1, extra large shall consist of turnips which are firm, smooth, roundish in nature, properly trimmed, practically free from frost injury, water core, dirt, cracks, and damage caused by disease, insects, or mechanical or othermeans.

For the purposes of these grades, -

(a) "Properly trimmed" means the tops to be trimmed off within one quarter of an inch of the body of the turnips, and the roots neatly trimmed but the body of the turnips not cut into.

(b) "Practically free" means the appearance shall not be injured to an extent readily apparent on examination.

(c) "Diameter" means the greatest dimension at right angles to a straight line from stem to root.

In order to allow for variations incident to commercial grading and handling, 10 percent by count of any lot of these grades may be smaller and 10 percent may be larger than the requirements of the grades.

T. C. 6 - 1925.

NOTICE

In a letter of December 30, 1925, addressed to W. C. Hackleman, of the New York office, the following additional information was given by G. E. McIntosh, Commissioner, Canada Dept. of Agriculture, at Ottawa:

In order to have uniformity among our inspectors, we apply to turnips or rutabagas the same basis as applicable to potatoes; that is to say, there might be a total of 6% of defects apart from size tolerance, such as 2% growth cracks, 2% frost injury and 2% water core, or 6% of any one of the defects mentioned in the grade. Anything above this would not be passed as "practically free".

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D.C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 7, NO. 3
January 15, 1926.
(Contents Confidential)

1a. CLEVELAND USING HOMEGROWN POTATOES.

Some interesting facts about the Cleveland potato market this season are brought out by Ray C. Bish, in a letter of January 6 to R. H. Shoemaker, in charge of the Grand Rapids, Mich., field station:-

"You will perhaps wonder at the small number of cars of potatoes which are now being shipped to Cleveland. During the past month, - December, 1925, - there were unloaded in this market 55 cars, compared with 238 unloaded in December, 1924. Homegrown stock is practically supplying the market at present, and has been since the early fall. The prices at which Ohio potatoes are jobbed have been considerably lower than the cost of potatoes at shipping points outside the State of Ohio. So, of course, there is little opportunity of mid-western potatoes coming to this market, as long as such conditions exist. About one-half of the 55 cars of potatoes arriving in Cleveland originated in western States.

"The greatest portion supplied Cleveland during this fall and winter has been trucked in from nearby producing areas. I have been advised that growers in this section have had very good yields, and the business has been a very profitable one from both the growers' and the speculators' standpoint. Early in the fall, potatoes were being delivered to Cleveland at $1.00 to $1.25 per bushel. I presume at this time several thousands of bushels were contracted for and were delivered as deemed needed. I understand, from information secured from the receivers, that quite a large proportion of the stock has been of only ordinary quality and, in many instances, little attempt was being made to grade, due to the fact that the growers were getting very attractive prices for their spuds.

"There are still, I believe, large quantities of potatoes in this and nearby counties remaining in the hands of the growers, and those that are selling their stock are doing so at the current market prices. It is practically impossible for receivers to contract for any stock to be delivered at a future time. The County Agent of Cuyahoga County has been quite instrumental in reviving the growing of potatoes in this territory. I have not seen any production figures, but know from my own experience and observation that there were more potatoes grown in Northern Ohio during the past year or so than there have been for several years.

"Many of the receivers are unable to explain the potato deal this season and are wondering with amazement how the prices are keeping as high as they have been at shipping points outside the State. The fact that homegrown stock is supplying the market has taken a lot of the potatoes out of the hands of the commission merchants, because the grocery stores and consumers are furnished direct with locally-produced stock."

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. VEGETABLES FROM THE VIRGIN ISLANDS.

The following report came from W. H. Stanton, of the New York office, under date of January 7:-

"The second, small consignment of vegetables from our Experimental Station in the Virgin Islands arrived last week, and, with the exception of the tomatoes, was disposed of at fairly good prices. The eggplant, tomatoes, and cucumbers arrived in good condition and sold for $2, $2.50, and $6 per package respectively. The tomatoes, which were not covered by the permit secured from the Federal Horticultural Board by Mr. Zorn, could not be removed from the dock until Monday of this week and, in the meantime, had been touched by the frost. They were worthless and had to be thrown away.

"Permit me to suggest in this connection that the package used for tomatoes was not a practical one. They were packed in the same type of package as the eggplant and cucumbers,- a ventilated cardboard bushel package,- and, of course, the tomatoes in the lower part of the package suffered from the weight of those above."

2b. MARKET NEWS DEVELOPMENTS IN NEW YORK STATE.

As a result of the conference of various interested persons at Albany last week, steps were taken to advertise more widely throughout New York State the market information which is now being broadcast by radio and being distributed in mimeographed form from Rochester and other offices. The idea is to make farmers better acquainted with the material at present available, rather than to increase the quantity of this material. Representatives of the Farm Bureau also agreed to send out a questionnaire to all members, asking what is desired in the way of market information, and just how much of this information they are now receiving by radio or by mail. These important results of the conference were reported to the Washington office by A. E. Prugh, of the Rochester office, who went to Albany for this meeting.

3b. DECEMBER SUPPLEMENT TO "CROPS AND MARKETS."

The most important statistical Supplement of the year, - the December Supplement to "Crops and Markets," - has been distributed this week. A complete mimeographed index to the fruit and vegetable material in this paper will soon be prepared and will be sent to all offices, when ready.

4b. COMMENDATION OF MARKET REPORTS.

In requesting a continuance of the daily market reports to his address, F. C. Bradford, Associate Professor of Horticulture, Michigan State Agricultural College, said: "We find these reports very useful in our instructional work, and I have made considerable use of them in the course in Geography of Horticulture."

5b. FURTHER REPORTS ON IMPERIAL VALLEY LETTUCE.

Writing to a middlewestern distributing company on January 8, C. E. Schultz brought out the following features of the Imperial Valley deal:-

"California weather this winter has been ideal. Imperial Valley lettuce crop has enjoyed almost perfect growing conditions, aside from some rain during the latter part of December. Sizes are generally running from 3½ to 4 dozens, with some 5 dozens being loaded. The stock is generally green and very clean. The only trouble of any general consequence is softness. It is expected that, with a few cool nights and an inclination of the shippers to permit the stock to mature fully, there will be a larger percentage of firm and even, hard-headed stock loaded. It has been unofficially estimated that possibly 500 cars of lettuce were wasted as a result of the December rains. Up to the present time, there have been around 1,600 cars shipped from the Imperial Valley, which is about 2½ times the amount shipped to the same date last year. There has been a slight increase in the plantings, but many growers and shippers are hopeful that this season's crop will not be harvested so irregularly as last year's, and most of them predict a more even marketing of the crop. However, these things are more or less dependent upon weather conditions, and it is impossible to make a definite statement concerning possible developments over any appreciable period in the future."

6b. SPECIAL POTATO REPORT.

On Tuesday of this week, the Division of Crop and Livestock Estimates released a special mimeographed report on Potatoes. It concerns chiefly the quality of the crops of 1924 and 1925, and discusses the utilization of these two potato crops, showing the quantity probably available for sale at harvest time in each of the late States. Copies of this report have been mailed to all market and field stations of the Market News Service, and the report was used as a basis for the potato paragraph in this Tuesday's Weekly Review.

7b. SUMMARY OF NEW JERSEY POTATO DEAL, 1925.

A very complete and attractive Summary of New Jersey Potato Deal, Season of 1925, has been released by E. R. Biddle, of the Philadelphia office. The front cover is decorated with an outline map of the State, having a sack of potatoes for a background or base. The title of the summary is printed by hand in large letters. A graph shows the relation between the shipping seasons and the weekly volume of shipments in eastern potato States for 1924 and 1925. Other charts in this report show the difference in price at shipping point and in terminal markets between U. S. No. 1, New Jersey Cobblers and machine-graded 1 3/4 inch stock from the same sections. Price charts for two seasons are placed opposite the statistical tables for the several eastern markets. An outline map of eastern U. S. shows, by dots, the destinations of carlot shipments from New Jersey. Copies of this summary can be obtained from Philadelphia.

7½b. FOREIGN NEWS ON CITRUS FRUIT.

The latest release by the Foreign Marketing Section is F.S.:CF-23, on "Spanish Oranges Damaged by Frost." "Citrus Fruit Industry in New Zealand." "South African Citrus Trade Outlook."

8b. INTERESTING NEWS ON CITRUS SITUATION IN FLORIDA.

Writing from Orlando, Fla., on January 7, R. H. Lamb sent the following information regarding oranges and grapefruit in that State:-

"Last evening the Fruitman's Club held their annual banquet, at which they elected officers for the coming year. The principal topic for discussion was an official estimate by the Fruitman's Club of the probable orange and grapefruit crop in Florida. Most of the citrus factors at this time are very desirous of knowing how much of the crop was left to be moved after January 1, and to this end each member was requested to fill out a questionnaire and bring it to this meeting. The results turned in were very considerably due, I presume, to the locality from which the individual came.

"On oranges, the estimate of the amount to be actually moved this season ranged from 8,000,000 to 10,000,000 boxes, while the grapefruit estimate of actual movement was placed at 4,000,000 to 6,000,000 boxes. After considerable deliberation, it was finally agreed that the official estimate of the Fruitman's Club would stand at 9,000,000 boxes for the orange crop and 5,000,000 boxes for grapefruit.

"I find, on an 8-year average (seasons 1917 to 1925), that only 84.2% of the estimated commercial production of oranges was actually shipped. With the Government December estimate at 10,700,000 boxes, the equivalent of 29,722 cars of 360 boxes each, and, applying this per cent, the probable movement for the 1925-26 season figures 25,033 cars. The movement to January 1 totaled 6,992, which would leave a balance of 18,041 cars to ship. In the case of grapefruit, the actual carload shipments for a 7-year period equalled 82.9% of the estimated commercial production, and this percentage, applied to the December forecast of 6,300,000 boxes, indicates a crop of 17,500 cars or 10,043 to be moved after January 1.

"The local factors report usual quietness after the holiday rush, with very little demand from smaller towns and cities at the present time but a fairly good demand in the auction cities of the North. In fact, the offerings on yesterday's auction were very light and some of the highest sales of the season were reported. A car of tangerines in New York City yesterday averaged $9.10, and grapefruit was fairly high throughout the various auctions.

"At the meeting last night, they pointed out the advisability of moving all the tangerines possible during the next few weeks, due to the increasing puffiness. Consequently, a break in the tangerine market may be expected in the near future.

"The Fruitman's Club last evening went on record as recommending that the grapefruit movement during the month of January be not over 60 cars daily and that the orange movement for the next ten days should be below 100 cars daily and remain at that point until such time as the demand from the smaller towns and cities warranted an increase. With a rather heavy drop reported in quite a few sections of the orange belt, I doubt very much if the growers will permit the movement to remain a great while at these figures.

"Several parties from the southern part of the belt commented on the fact that their field boxes were underpacking for the last few weeks, instead of the usual overpacking. If this proves to be generally true throughout the region, the orange crop may run as short as some of the factors think.

(continued on next page)

"The local f.o.b. market has remained practically steady for the last month at $3.00 to $3.50 on oranges and $2.75 to $3.25 on grapefruit, with an occasional $3.50, the size of the offering being the determining factor.

"It may be interesting at this point to give the estimate of the California crop that was received by the Fruitman's Club. Mr. Dana King of the California Fruit Exchange estimates the crop of Navel oranges and miscellaneous varieties at 25,000 cars, of which there have been moved to date approximately 7,000, leaving 18,000 cars to be moved after January 1, compared with something over 16,000 for the same period last year. The Valencia crop is estimated by the Exchange at 25,000 cars. All the members of the Fruitman's Club had anticipated quite a heavy increase in the probable California movement and this increase of only 2,000 cars did not disappoint them in the least."

9b. ANNUAL SUMMARY OF UNLOADS AT PORTLAND.

Under date of January 7, R. L. Ringer, of the Portland office, released a two-page mimeographed summary of unloads in that market during the year 1925. Of 37 shipped-in products, 5,932 cars were unloaded last year, compared with 5,294 cars in 1924 and 3,727 cars in 1923. During the first nine months of 1925, fruit and vegetable business showed a marked increase over the preceding year, but trading was rather slow and limited the last three months. Large quantities of locally-grown produce during the winter were restricting the arrivals of carlot supplies. Of the 5,932 carloads of fruits and vegetables received during 1925, only 756 originated at points within the State of Oregon, and these were mostly apples.

10b. SUMMARY OF SOUTH TEXAS CABBAGE DEAL, 1924-25.

A cooperative summary, prepared by J. A. Hunter, of the San Antonio office, and distributed during the past week, covers thoroughly the South Texas Cabbage Deal, Season of 1924-25. A table gives the freight rates and refrigeration costs on cabbage from Texas to a dozen leading markets. The summary emphasizes the passings of cabbage through important gateways, and the usual statistical tables round out this report.

11b. MORE NEWS ABOUT FREEZE IN SOUTH TEXAS:

J. A. Hunter made an investigational trip early in the year to the Lower Rio Grande Valley, to ascertain the extent of damage from the freeze which occurred the last week of December. Brief excerpts from his lengthy report are given below:

"While by no means inconsiderable, damage to fruits and vegetables at Corpus Christi, Texas, and in the Lower Rio Grande Valley was so much less than the severity of the weather would indicate, as to be worthy of comment. Minimums of 24 to 26 degrees were registered throughout this territory; a slow drizzling rain turned to ice as it came in contact with trees and vegetation. The freezing weather held for three days, but thawing weather for the succeeding week was ideal, the rise in temperature being very gradual. Cloudy skies and light misting rain continued until noon of Tuesday, January 5."

CABBAGE: The Corpus Christi - Robstown district has about 2,500 acres of cabbage this year. Damage by freeze was not great. Average yield per acre probably will be considerably reduced. Most shipments come in March and

Commercial plantings in the Lower Valley this year are estimated locally around 8,000 acres. A year ago, this section grew 13,125 acres of cabbage and two years ago about 7,900 acres. Final yield may be cut about one-third, as a result of the freeze, and there will be a tendency to develop small heads and possibly some loose, puffy cabbage. An average of 5 tons per acre is expected this season.

ONIONS: There are about 1,500 to 2,000 acres of onions at Corpus Christi on the three-foot row basis. This is equivalent to 600 acres, on an irrigated basis. No damage occurred from the cold weather. The crop will be late, however, and no considerable shipments are expected before April 20. Around 200 cars may come from this section.

SPINACH: There are approximately 1,000 acres of spinach in Nueces County this year, 800 being in the vicinity of Robstown. This is a rather new project, with plantings heavier than last season. Damage from freeze was slight. In the Lower Valley there are probably not more than 300 or 400 acres of spinach. In general, the average yield on future cuttings will be reduced. The Austin section of Texas is about cleaned up on its early spinach tonnage.

BEETS AND CARROTS: Local estimates place the beet and carrot acreage in the Lower Valley between 4,500 and 5,000 acres. Between 65% and 75% is in carrots. Beet tops were frozen back and shipments delayed. Carrots were practically unhurt. The 1,000 acres of turnips were not damaged. An average of 5 or 6 tons per acre is being secured on these crops this year, and returns to growers have been around $125 per acre, in the field. Approximately 40¢ per bushel was being paid for carrots and turnips prior to the freeze, and 60¢ for beets.

POTATOES: Apparently no damage occurred to potatoes. No seed for the 1926 spring crop had yet been planted, and the remaining portion of the fall crop was negligible. Outlook for spring acreage is favorable, with plantings to start about January 15. About 70 cars of seed had arrived in the Valley up to January 5, and 80 more cars were in sight. This will plant from 4,500 to 5,000 acres, compared with 6,000 a year ago. Around 3,000 acres will be planted in the vicinity of Brownsville. Acreage around Harlingen will be increased, and more interest is being shown in potatoes at Mercedes. Seed is costing more than twice what it did last year, but growers are optimistic over the crop and market outlook. With good yields, the deal should be profitable.

LETTUCE: The Big Boston lettuce, grown in the vicinity of San Benito (the most important commercial section), came through the freeze without injury. About 35 or 40 cars are expected to be available in February. The New York and Iceberg varieties suffered some from the freeze, but plantings were light.

MISCELLANEOUS CROPS: Eggplant, peppers, tomatoes, green beans, squash, cauliflower were all a total loss, as a result of cold weather. However, most of these crops had been harvested before the freeze. Replanting for the spring crop will begin around the last of January or the first of February, with movement expected about March 15 or 20.

CITRUS FRUIT: Nursery stock was affected to some extent but not seriously. As nearly 80% of the grapefruit crop had already been harvested, the loss from this source will not be great. The weight of ice on limbs and fruit of the three and four-year-old orange groves, around Mercedes and McAllen, caused considerable damage to the trees. No great reduction is expected in this year's tonnage, however.

E. W. STILLWELL, Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably Will Close
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	Mrs. L.B. Gerry	Apples	Aug. 24	Mar. 15
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO 230 Federal Bldg.	845	W. F. Cox	Potatoes	Sept. 2	Apr. 30
ROCHESTER, N. Y.** 419 Triangle Bldg.	837	A. E. Prugh	Apples	Sept. 4	Apr. 1
			Pears*	Sept. 4	Oct. 31*
			Cabbage	Sept. 4	Mar. 1
			Onions	Sept.14	Mar. 1
			Peaches*	Sept.14	Oct. 3*
			Celery	Sept.16	Jan. 30
			Potatoes	Sept.16	Apr. 1
			Grapes*	Sept. 21	Oct. 31*
			Carrots	Sept. 23	Mar. 1
PRESQUE ISLE, ME. Graves HardwareBlock	842	H. E. Rutland	Potatoes	Sept. 8	Apr. 1
WAUPACA,WIS.** Court House	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept.14	Apr. 30
GRAND RAPIDS,MICH.** 419 Federal Bldg. MAIL:P.O. Box 86	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Apples*	Oct. 7	Nov. 24*
			Potatoes	Oct. 7	June 1
			Onions	Oct. 7	Mar. 1
ORLANDO, FLA.** 20 Phillips Bldg. MAIL:P.O. Box 188	920	R. H. Lamb	Citrus Fruit	Nov. 2	Apr. 15
EL CENTRO,CALIF. Barbara Worth Hotel	933	C.E. Schultz	Lettuce	Jan. 4	Apr. 10
SANFORD, FLA.**	910	R.L. Sutton	Celery	Jan. 19	Apr. 10

The following station probably will open on date indicated:

BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS**	931	J. D. Evers	Cabbage	Feb. 1	May 1
			Beets & Carrots	Feb. 1	May 1
			Lettuce	Feb. 1	Feb. 27
			Potatoes	Mar. 15	May 1
			Stg.Beans	Apr. 1	
			Tomatoes	Apr. 15	May 1

** State cooperating. *Reports discontinued.

TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENTS:

J. D. Evers in Washington office.
G. E. Prince " " "
F. S. Kinsey in Los Angeles office.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. ADDRESSES OF MEN ON SHIPPING-POINT DEALS.

Several supervising inspectors are now on shipping-point deals, with present locations as follows:

G. R. Warren, Caribou, Maine.
O. N. Harsha, 415 Triangle Bldg., Rochester, N.Y.
C. G. Strauss, P.O. Box 188, Orlando, Fla.
J. C. Townsend, Jr., Palmetto, Fla. (after January 20)
C. D. Shirley, General Delivery, Harlingen, Texas.
F. S. Kinsey, c/o Arizona Industrial Congress, Phoenix, Arizona.

2c. REVISED ADDRESS LIST OF INSPECTORS.

Sometime during the next week, copies of the revised address list of inspection offices and inspectors will be mailed to all offices. This list was not quite ready to enclose with the D. L.

Promptly on receipt , please examine the new list carefully and advise Washington of any errors or omissions, which may have slipped by. Although each inspector-in-charge was asked to submit corrections for this list, about half a dozen failed to return the postal-card forms provided for this purpose. Be sure to keep the revised list handy for reference, and discard all previous lists.

3c. MORE ABOUT THE MILD WEATHER IN OREGON.

On January 5, R. L. Ringer sent this additional news from Portland:-

"I am not trying to start any Florida boom toward Oregon, because we do not want one, but the weather we are having is almost beyond belief. I made a 100-mile drive the other day without an overcoat. I have marigolds and roses blooming in the yard and had to mow my lawn between Christmas and New Year's Day.

"The stalls are full of local garden truck and yesterday I inspected a car of cabbage, fresh and green, direct from the field. The temperature at 8 a.m. today was 55 degrees. To get the full significance of that, you need to look at the map and see that we are almost as far north as Presque Isle, Me.

"By the way, the 45th parallel of latitude crosses between here and Salem. They have a sign-post on the highway. Going south you see a picture of an ideal south-sea-island scene, with natives a la September morn, and the announcement: 'Half way to the equator.' The other side of the sign, which you see when headed north, is an arctic scene, with an Esquimau igloo and the words: 'Half way to the pole.'

"P.S.- I hear that Roseburg broccoli is almost ready to move in small way."

IF YOU FAIL to receive your Division Letter regularly, DON'T FAIL to tell Washington about it. Every issue contains instructions and news of importance.

The next three items are taken from The Inspectors' Notes, No. 2, issued by the Sacramento Office on January 8, 1926:

4c. IMPERIAL VALLEY LETTUCE DEAL GROWING.

The rapid growth of the Imperial Valley lettuce deal is well shown in a recent letter from Sam Preston, Supervisor of Inspection there. In 1916, he writes, 27 cars were shipped, the B.A.E. figures showing a rapid increase in shipments during the successive years, as follows:

1917	413 cars	1922	4,773 cars
1918	854 "	1923	7,987 "
1919	838 "	1924	9,548 "
1920	2,940 "	1925	9,366 "
1921	3,609 "		

Using a conservative average of past yields, 140 to 165 crates per acre, depending on the weather, this year's planting of some 25,000 acres should produce, under ordinary conditions, at least 11,500 cars.

The increase in the demand for shipping-point inspection has been as consistent as the growth in production, showing the effectiveness of this work, based on the United States grades:

1923	2 inspectors	272 cars certified
1924	8 inspectors	1,809 " "
1925	11 inspectors	2,468 " "

That a higher percentage of cars was inspected in 1925 than the previous year is very significant. In 1925 less than 25% of the cars inspected graded U.S. No. 1, with less than 10 cars grading U.S. Fancy. That more inspections were requested in spite of the low-quality crop and many cash-on-track sales, is evidence of the increasing value which shippers are placing on Federal-State inspection reports.

This season many shippers and buyers are using the percentages of No. 1 quality given in the certificates to establish theprice paid for cars which fail to grade U.S. No. 1 on account of soft heads. From 80% to 90% of the cars of the new crop inspected to date have been placed in this class, soft heads being practically the only defect of grade.

On account of the increasing importance of the solidity in heads in determining price, inspectors are now writing the approximate percentages of solid and firm heads, as well as of soft heads, rather than using the general terms, as previously. All inspectors are highly trained and experienced, and a frequent check is made on them to insure uniformity in their determination of firmness and other factors of grade.

In 1926 it is probable that 3,500 cars will be inspected, 16 to 18 inspectors being required during the peak shipping period. There are some 85 different firms loading lettuce at approximately 135 packing houses in the Imperial Valley, and many of them have given blanket orders for inspection on all of their cars.

The lettuce acreages mature spasmodically, causing rapid fluctuations in volume of loadings and inspections, making it very difficult to maintain an adequate inspection force to handle these emergencies. Last year there were many days when more than 175 cars were loaded, the peak day being 227 cars. In order to assure careful work, inspectors are limited in the number of cars they may inspect per day, and, when the saturation point is reached, further requests for inspection will be denied. Firms giving blanket orders will receive first attention, and others in the order of application.

(continued over)

A branch office is being maintained for the southern end of the Valley in the Barbara North Hotel Building, El Centro, and for the northern points a branch has been opened in Casey's Real Estate office at Brawley.

On January 4, the deal was running true to predictions, 234 cars having been inspected to date, compared with 103 at this time last year.

5c. CELERY REGULATION ESTABLISHED IN CALIFORNIA.

Owing to the difficulty of getting an accurate count on the smaller sizes of celery, it has been ruled in California that crates containing 6½ dozen and over shall be considered correctly marked, from an enforcement viewpoint, if the actual count does not vary more than six (6) from the number of stalks marked. Six-dozen size and larger shall be allowed a variation of not more than three (3) stalks from the count marked, as has been done in the past. In certifying any lots of celery which conform to this regulation, but which do not show exact markings, the statement should be made "Counts approximately correct as marked." Any lots which fail to meet the above requirement cannot be certified and should be remarked or repacked, or else reported to enforcing officials.

6c. BRIEF NOTES FROM CALIFORNIA POINTS:

- H. W. Peterson advises that cabbage shipments have begun at Colma, with 2 to 4 cars a day. During the month of December, 156 cars were inspected, mostly broccoli. The previous December (1924), 148 cars were inspected.

- The San Joaquin - Sacramento valleys have been covered with fog for nearly three weeks, from about December 20 to January 8. The sun has been seen only a few hours during the entire period.

- A Mexican convicted of selling immature avocados in Los Angeles was recently given 20 days jail sentence. While being held in the county jail, his family was supported by the county board of charities.

7c. FLORIDA SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION WORK.

The following inspections were made at shipping points in Florida during the period December 16 to 31, 1925:

Section	Grapefruit	Oranges	Tangerines	Mixed Citrus	Total
DeLand.....	0	22	1	1	24
Groveland.....	0	3	0	1	4
Lakeland.....	0	2	0	2	4
Leesburg.....	1	3	0	2	6
Mt. Dora.....	0	0	2	0	2
Ocala.....	0	5	0	5	10
Orlando.....	0	6	0	4	10
Umatilla.....	5	5	0	7	17
Total	6	46	3	22	77
Previously reported.....	165	196	26	69	456
GRAND TOTAL...	171	242	29	91	533

8c. INSPECTION CERTIFICATES HELP GROWERS TO WIN SUIT.

Recently, Walter Kingsbury, of the Salt Lake City office, sent in the following clipping, from the front page of The Deseret News, Salt Lake City, December 11, 1925:-

INSPECTIONS OF UTAH CARS WIN $2,446 IN SUIT.
Protest of Chicago Firm Falls before Reports of Fitness of Onions for Railroad Shipment.

Shipping-point inspection service, inaugurated in the State in recent years, came up for review by the Supreme Court Friday, when the court handled down an opinion affirming judgment of $2,446.83, given the Growers' Exchange against a Chicago firm on shipments of five cars of onions in the fall of 1923.

The Chicago firm refused to accept the onions on the ground that they were not of the grade and standard called for. Certificates issued on inspection, both in Salt Lake and at the point of destination, established the onions as of the proper grades and standards and, on the basis of this evidence largely, the Utah shipper was enabled to recover.

The receiver of the onions appealed, contending these certificates were incompetent evidence and also that judgment was excessive. Judgment represented the difference between the contract price of the onions and the price received when resold after the original purchaser's refusal to accept shipment.

The Chicago company endeavored to induce the Utah shipper to cut its price by representing that inspectors at Chicago had found the onions below grade but, when the truth became known, the Chicago inspectors confirmed the grades placed on the commodity by the Utah inspectors.

9c. IMPORTANT NOTES ON NORTHWESTERN APPLES.

In a recent letter to one of the inspection offices, F.E. Bailey, Supervising Inspector at Spokane, included the following remarks:-

"My observations of apples in storage in various parts of Washington and Oregon lead me to believe that internal break-down may be quite a factor in the marketing of this year's crop. This is not due altogether to neglect on the part of growers and others concerned with the handling of the crop at shipping point. I have been in the Northwest most of the time since 1914, and I may say that fruit ripened in various parts of the Northwest from three to seven days earlier than it has in any season which I recall during the past eleven years. With fruit ripening so early, growers and others were not prepared to start picking, in many cases, and often did not realize that the fruit was ready to harvest when it was. Therefore, much fruit undoubtedly remained on the trees somewhat longer than it should have done. Following this, we have had a very mild fall, which made it difficult to cool fruit properly in common storage. I mention these points because I believe that they had more to do with fruit ripening early than did the fact that growers allowed fruit to hang on the trees to obtain color.

"Weakened condition of the trees in some orchards is probably another factor in the poor keeping of fruit. One inspector, who is quite familiar with conditions in his district, states that he notes a difference in this season's keeping quality between fruit harvested from healthy orchards and that from orchards which have suffered from winter injury during recent years."

RECEIVING-POINT INSPECTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER, 1925

Markets	Total Inspections	Total Same Month 1924	Inspections for Carriers	Declined for Lack of Time	Total Fees
Atlanta	70	50	7	0	$ 268.00
Baltimore	19	19	0	0	79.00
Boston	84	64	18	0	358.50
Buffalo	21	33	6	0	82.50
Chicago	277	338	10	1	1,392.50
Cincinnati	38	24	0	0	183.00
Cleveland	40	81	8	0	184.50
Columbus	19	18	0	0	79.50
Denver	11	9	0	0	49.50
Detroit	61	66	3	0	241.50
Fort Worth	23	19	0	0	92.00
Harrisburg	0	3	0	0	00.00
Houston	33	26	0	0	108.00
Indianapolis	32	27	1	0	119.50
Kansas City	78	73	8	0	333.50
Los Angeles	11	0	1	0	45.00
Memphis	62	61	43	0	253.50
Milwaukee	19	16	1	0	81.50
Minneapolis	35	43	0	0	142.50
Newark	34	0	0	0	143.50
New Haven	50	26	7	0	207.00
New Orleans	125	150	65	0	481.50
New York	1061	895	73	0	3,692.58
Norfolk	21	41	6	3	83.50
Omaha	16	38	3	0	66.00
Philadelphia	63	100	0	0	300.00
Pittsburgh	48	86	6	0	208.00
Portland	40	42	3	0	153.00
Raleigh	0	0	0	0	0.00
Sacramento	5	0	0	0	20.00
St. Louis	93	82	28	0	389.50
Salt Lake City	2	2	0	0	8.00
San Antonio	0	21	0	0	0.00
San Diego	0	0	0	0	0.00
San Francisco	4	0	1	1	16.00
Washington	22	31	1	0	89.00
Wilkes-Barre	9	4	4	0	39.50
TOTAL	2526	2488	303	5	$9,991.00

9½c: SEND IN SAMPLES OF PEANUTS.

Request is made again for samples of peanuts which have been held more than 30 days after date of inspection. The Grain Division desires to use these in testing out a new method of determining the oil content of various products. About one pound from each sample is all that should be sent in. Samples of both Spanish and Runners are requested.

INSPECTIONS FOR THE NAVY AND MARINE CORPS DURING DECEMBER, 1925

SYMBOLS: N - NAVY M - MARINE CORPS	ALL FIGURES IN THESE COLUMNS REPRESENT POUNDS									
	Fruits and Vegetables PASSED		Fruits and Vegetables REJECTED		TOTAL QUANTITY INSPECTED		"Cuts" Made to Comply with Specifications.		Items Billed Short-weight	
STATIONS	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M
BOSTON	171041	7333	1035	0	172076	7333	253	0	0	0
NEW YORK	404305	101427	13386	349	417691	101776	369	85	0	0
NORFOLK	70137	0	2250	0	72387	0	0	0	0	0
PHILADELPHIA	323109	21691	4025	247	327134	21938	2389	321	0	0
SAN DIEGO	683566	87889	30469	1256	714035	89145	703	45	19	0
SAN FRANCISCO	146862	0	30200	0	177062	0	0	0	0	0
SAN PEDRO	697767	0	3725	0	701492	0	189	0	0	0
VALLEJO	174850	35725	8060	0	182910	35725	15	45	0	0
TOTALS	2671637	254065	93150	1852	2764787	255917	3918	496	19	0
INSPECTIONS MADE FOR U. S. SHIPPING BOARD										
NEW YORK	59740		0		59740		0		0	
NORFOLK	31343		480		31823		140		0	
TOTAL	91083		480		91563		140		0	

In addition to the above, the New York office inspected the following:

	Vegetables	Fruits	Rejections
For the United States Lines.....	90,319 lbs.	69,169 lbs.	2,213 lbs.
United American Lines.....	-	44,457	900
Munson Line.....	80,914	21,519	35
American Diamond Line.....	19,997	2,606	-
American Merchant Line.....	13,066	2,186	-
American France Line.....	14,467 1	12,720 1	- lbs.
TOTAL.....	218,763 lbs.	152,657 lbs.	3,148 lbs.

The San Pedro office also inspected and accepted the following: 5355 lbs. of bread, 2502 lbs. of butter, and 1591 lbs. of cheese, making a total of 9448 lbs. accepted. Also 500 lbs. of cheese were rejected.

The Vallejo office also inspected and passed the following: 28440 lbs. of bread and 500 lbs. of rolls for the Navy.

10c. REVISED MIMEOGRAPHED SHEETS FOR INSPECTORS.

With this D.L., each inspector will receive four revised sheets, as follows, - to be inserted in their proper places:

Pages 1 and 2a of the circular on Inspection of Peanuts. Par. 9 on Page 2a is the one containing recent revision. (The page numbers did not print plainly on this sheet, but it is the first sheet of the Peanut Circular, and should be substituted for the present Pages 1 and 2.)

Part I of the Receiving-Point Handbook should have inserted in it the following revised sheets:

Pages 13 and 14a. Par. 64 on Page 14a contains the revision.

Pages 17a and 18. Par. 77 on Page 17a contains the revision.

Pages 21a and 22. Par. 95 on Page 21a contains the revision, and the original Par. 97 has been omitted entirely.

11c. PUBLICATIONS FOR INSPECTION OFFICES:

During the last week of December, the following literature was distributed as indicated:

New Hampshire Apple Grading Law and New York State Apple Grading Law (Circular 283, July, 1925), - sent to all inspectors in eastern markets.

California Standard Apple Act (Statutes 1925) and California Fruit and Vegetable Standardization Act (approved 1925), - sent to all inspectors.

Dept. Circular 350: "An Improved Type of Pressure Tester for Determination of Fruit Maturity." One copy sent to each inspection office.

Farmers' Bulletin 1400, "Establishing Cranberry Fields.") copies
Farmers' Bulletin 1401, "Managing Cranberry Fields.") to all
Farmers' Bulletin 1402, "Cranberry Harvesting and Handling.")inspectors

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

OFFICE NOTES:

J. W. Howard, who has been on leave in Georgia, tendered his resignation, effective December 31, and will go into business at West Palm Beach, Fla. Mr. Howard has been in the Inspection Service since June, 1924, and most of the time has worked in Chicago, New Orleans and New York City. He also assisted with shipping-point inspections in Florida, Georgia and Michigan. Our best wishes go with him.

MEMPHIS office of the Inspection Service will move to Room 752, Randolph Bldg. within a week or two. Please keep this change in mind. At present, Mr. Smith, the local inspector, is occupying Room 774 in the same building.

Six more cars of potatoes were inspected at Lynchburg, Va., by Herbert Graff the early part of this week.

White clover is blooming at Baton Rouge, La., according to evidence submitted by E. C. Davis, Specialist in Bee Culture, at the State Agricultural College. In a letter to Mr. Clay, he said: "In sending in my honey report this morning (Jan.8), I mentioned White Clover blooming. To prove that I am a truthful contributor to the Market News Service, am enclosing a handful of clover, just as I grabbed it from the lawn."

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

On his return from the New Orleans trade convention, Mr. Samson is expected to accompany Mr. Tenny, Assistant Chief of the Bureau, to the annual convention of the National League of Commission Merchants, being held in the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York City, from January 19 to 22. During the same week, the American Fruit and Vegetable Brokers organization will hold its annual meeting in New York City.

Mr. Sherman probably will leave on Sunday evening for various points in the East, where he will confer with representatives of our F. & V. Division, with State officials, and with Civil Service eligibles. He may stop in Philadelphia, New York, New Haven and Boston, and may also visit our offices in Newark, N. J., and Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

E. E. Conklin, Jr., was called to his home at Syracuse, N. Y., last Sunday on account of the death of his grandmother, and from that point proceeded on an investigational trip to New York City, Boston, and Caribou, Me. He expects to reach northern Maine by Monday. The chief purpose of the trip is to study the grading and inspection of Maine potatoes, with a view to the possible revision of U. S. grades for this product.

The inspector's training class completes its work in Chicago this Saturday. H. W. Schneck, W. E. Leigh and T. R. Merrill will remain on the Chicago staff for the present. G. R. Blount, a State man, returns to his headquarters in North Carolina.

Bolling Hall and G. H. Irish, who took the training course in Chicago, are being transferred to the New York City staff at the end of this week.

H. A. Harris returns from Chicago to his headquarters in Los Angeles, where he will be in charge of the joint work, market news and local inspections of interstate shipments. Before resuming active duty in Los Angeles, Mr. Harris will visit the producing sections in San Diego County and in the Imperial Valley of California. F. S. Kinsey will remain in Los Angeles until Mr. Harris takes over the work again, about January 25, after which Mr. Kinsey will return to the lettuce inspection deal at Phoenix, Arizona.

W. F. Allewelt and S. S. Rogers, of the Sacramento office, are on a trip to southern California this week, in the interest of shipping-point inspection work. They expect to stop at Fresno, Visalia and Hanford. On Wednesday, a meeting on potato standardization was scheduled for Shafter, and yesterday a similar meeting was to be held in Los Angeles. From that city, the trip will be continued to Orange County and San Diego. This Saturday and Sunday probably will be spent with inspectors in the Imperial Valley, and on Tuesday Messrs. Allewelt and Rogers will be back in Los Angeles for the monthly meeting of horticultural commissioners, returning from there to Sacramento.

We regret to announce the resignation of Mrs. Mildred Story Colby, effective at the end of February. Mrs. Colby has rendered excellent service in the Minneapolis office since her appointment in December, 1920, and is leaving in order to continue her musical studies. Request is being made for the transfer of Miss Ruth C. Holcomb, from Washington, to Minneapolis.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

R. L. Sutton will go from Chicago direct to Sanford, Fla., where he will operate the market news field-station on celery.

W. D. Googe, who also took the training course in Chicago, returns to his headquarters in Fort Worth, Texas.

By a rearrangement of the schedule for field stations, J. D. Evers will operate the station at Brownsville, Texas, beginning about February 1, instead of going to Florida, as originally planned.

George E. Prince arrived in Washington last Monday from South Carolina, and will do special work in the local office for the next few weeks.

D. D. Whitcomb, formerly in charge of the marketing work in South Carolina, and G. A. Ross, Chief of the North Carolina Division of Markets, were visitors to the Washington office this week, conferring with Mr. Sherman and project leaders regarding various marketing problems.

J. C. Townsend, Jr., who has been connected with the New Orleans inspection office for several months, is proceeding to Florida, where he will assist as a supervising inspector of vegetables, with headquarters probably at Palmetto. He will stop at Orlando en route south, to confer with O. G. Strauss, who is in general charge of the Florida deal. G. W. Winfrey remains in charge of the New Orleans office.

C. D. Shirley's present address in Texas is: General Delivery, Harlingen. Mr. Shirley is supervising shipping-point inspections.

W. F. Cox is now in charge of the Idaho Falls field station of the Market News Service. It is understood that E. D. Mallison will take up his new work with B.P.I. in the western States within a few days.

En route back to his headquarters in Rochester early this week, O. N. Harsha stopped for a day at Pittsburgh, to confer with inspectors in that market.

W. L. Evans and H. V. DeMott left on Wednesday night for New York City, where they will re-audit the 1918 accounts of a prominent wool dealer, from whom the Government is seeking to recover excess profits.

A group of 15 or 20 members of the market news staff in Washington gave a surprise house-warming party at L. H. Martin's new home in Virginia last Saturday evening. Mr. and Mrs. Martin were presented with a floor lamp.

Market reports on potatoes, issued at the Idaho Falls, Idaho, field station, will be reduced to a thrice-weekly basis on Monday. Similar action has been taken regarding the reports issued at Presque Isle, Maine.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 7, NO. 4
January 22, 1926.
(Contents Confidential)

1a. JUNIOR MARKETING SPECIALIST EXAMINATION.

Mr. Sherman is anxious that Civil Service Announcement No. 58, regarding the coming examination for Junior Marketing Specialist, be given as wide distribution as possible among men who would make desirable additions to our staff. Applications for this examination close on Saturday, February 27, 1926. A number of copies of the announcement have been sent under separate cover to inspectors or supervising inspectors at -

Baton Rouge, La.	Harlingen, Texas	Richmond, Va.
Boise, Idaho	Orlando, Fla.	Rochester, N. Y.
Caribou, Maine	Phoenix, Arizona	Sacramento, Calif.
Denver, Colo.	Raleigh, N. C.	Wenatchee, Wash.

With this Division Letter, all other technical men will receive two copies of the announcement, for distribution among desirable candidates.

2a. A STUDY OF POTATO WAREHOUSING.

The Library has called to our attention Technical Bulletin No. 28 of the University of Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station, entitled "Economic Aspects of Local Potato Warehouse Organization." Most of this 76-page bulletin is devoted to a discussion of the various costs connected with warehousing of potatoes in Minnesota. A large number of graphs and other illustrations add to the attractiveness and helpfulness of the bulletin.

3a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR JANUARY 16:

Page 37 - Special paragraphs on cabbage in the weekly review.
39 - Many Louisiana Sweet Potatoes in Storage.
- Potato Situation in Maine, - by H. E. Rutland.
- New York Carrots in Firm Position, - by A. E. Prugh.
40 - Florida Oranges Widely Distributed, - by R. H. Lamb.
- British Apple Markets Well Supplied.
42 - Forward Steps Taken by Ohio Apple Growers.
48 - Spanish Oranges Damaged by Frost.

4a. ADDITIONAL FOREIGN NEWS.

The following additional mimeographed reports have been issued by the Foreign Marketing Section during the past week:

F.S.:A-41, "The 1925 Australian Apple Season." F.S.:O-13, "Inferior Canary Island Onion Seed Possible." "Spanish Onion Shipments." F.S.:P-11, "Yugoslavian Prune Surplus Reduced."

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. TRUCK AND WAGON RECEIPTS IN SALT LAKE CITY.

Walter Kingsbury, of the Salt Lake City office, evidently has some means of ascertaining the arrivals in that market of fruits and vegetables hauled in by truck or wagon. He has just issued a mimeographed sheet, listing these arrivals by commodities. About 80 different products, or varieties of products, are included. The first column shows the actual number of packages received from May 1 to December 31, 1925. The next column gives the approximate number of packages per carload, and the last column shows the arrivals reduced to equivalent carloads. Total receipts amounted to 838,132 packages of 75 products, plus 11,450 pounds of garlic, 25 pounds of horseradish, 122,000 pounds of rhubarb, 16,400 pumpkins, 58,570 squash, and 164,300 watermelons. The total received by wagon and truck during this eight months' period was equivalent to 1,747 carloads. During the same period, freight unloads in Salt Lake City were 199 cars from Utah points and 1,069 cars from outside the State.

2b. INTERESTING NOTES ON THE CINCINNATI MARKET.

Writing from Cincinnati under date of January 14, J.G. Scott sent the following very interesting items regarding the local market:-

"Attached to this sheet, I am sending a clipping which is interesting, perhaps more so to the Inspection Project that to the Market News. (The clipping is an advertisement of peanut butter, pressed from Government inspected No. 1 Spanish white peanuts.') For some time the Kroger chain stores have been advertising their potatoes to the consumer as U.S. No. 1 stock, but I do not believe that I have ever seen peanut butter advertised in this particular way before. I understand that the Kroger stores are making their own peanut butter at present, and I know that they are having inspections made by this office. Previously, I believe, they purchased their peanut butter from a firm in Indiana.

"No doubt you will be amused when I tell you that the peach season here ended on Monday of this week, when the few bushels remaining from last summer's crop were dumped. The last car of Ohio peaches was held on track for something like 39 days and then the peaches were hauled to a store and placed in a refrigerator. Of course, there was no demand for this stock; so they were kept under ice until last Monday. Needless to say, most of them were badly decayed, but a few still appeared as if they had been peaches at one time. This particular car was one of two which this office was instrumental in having unloaded, after having been held in the yards a long time.

"While this has been a bad week on account of the cold weather and snow, business here since the Christmas holidays has not been bad at all. Potatoes have shown better movement since Christmas than just before. Storage holdings are now only about half what they were around December 15th. On the other hand, apples supplies are rather heavy. Dealers who have about cleaned up consider themselves lucky and predict that many will be stuck before the season is over."

The California Grape Growers' Exchange, at San Francisco, is closing up its affairs, preparatory to discontinuing active business operations. The Exchange has functioned for six years, but lack of interest on the part of grower members has led to a suspension of activities.

3b. RECORD OF SERVICES OVER LEASED WIRE DURING DECEMBER, 1925

Name of Market Serviced	Total Number of Services to Markets	Errors by Markets	Telegraphic Errors	Insufficient Information by Markets	Unclassified Services to Markets	Unnecessary Services **	Unanswered Services	Voluntary Corrections ***
Atlanta	9	3	4	1	1	-	-	2
Baltimore	3	1	1	-	1	-	-	4
Boston	20	7	4	5	3	-	1	2
Chicago	18	7	5	1	3	-	2	7
Cincinnati	18	9	1	3	5	-	-	-
Fort Worth*	19	10	1	2	3	-	3	2
Kansas City	14	7	2	2	2	-	1	4
Memphis	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Minneapolis	5	4	-	1	-	-	-	2
New York	41	14	12	6	8	-	1	3
Omaha	4	1	-	1	2	-	-	-
Philadelphia	32	10	6	4	12	-	-	-
Pittsburgh	4	3	1	-	-	-	-	3
St. Louis	16	3	5	2	6	-	-	6
Washington	4	2	1	-	-	1	-	12
Dec. Total	208	82	43	28	46	1	8	52
Nov. Total	265	97	59	41	58	1	9	80

*Including Dallas. *** Not included in the Total.
** By Markets

4b. HEAVY MAILING LIST AT PRESQUE ISLE OFFICE.

H. E. Rutland writes that, even after circularizing his mailing list for potato market reports at Presque Isle, Me., he still has 2,000 names on the list. The number who requested continuance of the reports on a thrice-weekly basis is larger than the total number on the mailing list at any time during the 1924-25 season, and Mr. Rutland expects that 2,350 persons will have requested the reports when all applications are received. About 20 applications per day were still coming in during the second week of January. He had lost less than 400 names through the circularization. The unusual interest in market reports this year probably is due to the high prices and the rather exciting market condition for potatoes.

C. M. White, Chief of the Maine Division of Markets, sent a circular letter to all potato shippers in the State, regarding the shipping-point inspection service, and at the end of this circular he included the following remarks:

"Just a word in regard to the U.S. Market News Service, issued at Presque Isle by H.E. Rutland: This is one of the most reliable and useful services that has ever been given. It is to be regretted that Federal and State funds are not available to continue the daily service. Three times a week is good, but daily is better. This Department congratulates Mr. Rutland on the accuracy and fullness of his potato news service."

5b. NOTES ON WINTER GRADEN AND LAREDO DISTRICTS OF TEXAS:

Mr. Hunter, of the San Antonio office, made a survey of injury caused crops by the severe weather the last few days of December and by the heavy frosts of the week ending January 16. This latest report covers particularly the Winter Garden district and the Laredo section of South Texas. The following summary of Mr. Hunter's report is not for release but merely for the information of our own staff:-

"Spinach yields were cut nearly a third and quality decidedly lowered by the low temperatures of the above dates and the development of blue mold and blight, which appears to have been accentuated by the unfavorable weather. Onions were not injured because of their immaturity but in some of the territory the rapid growth with which the plants started after their transplanting has been checked and the crop is making little progress at the present time, although warm rains of the recent week-end are expected to improve this condition. Carrots were uninjured by the weather and present shipping quality is excellent. Beet tops were frozen except in a few instances, but acreage is small. No injury is apparent in the romaine, of which possibly 150 acres will be harvested this year in the Winter Garden district, nor in the small plantings of brussels sprouts which are being tried this year for the first time at Asherton with very decided success. There was very little damage to citrus, although some young stock still looks 'unhealthy,' and there was an occasional tree lost where improper protective methods were employed. The successful manner in which citrus came through the cold wave has greatly encouraged growers, who now contemplate a decidedly heavier acreage to oranges and grapefruit."

SPINACH: Present indications are that the movement of spinach in these two districts will be greatly restricted until the closing days of January, but peak shipping is again anticipated for the period commencing about February 5, when quite an acreage both at Laredo and in the Crystal City-Carrizo Springs - Asherton belt will reach a cutting age. Growers so far have had a successful deal. It is estimated that the growing and loading cost this year is between 28¢ and 31¢ per bushel, and most cash-track sales have been made at 75¢ or more. Considerable interest is manifested in late plantings for March shipment.

ONIONS: Estimates so far indicate that the onion acreage in Texas as a whole may be about 6% or 7% greater than last year. The Laredo district seems to have a considerable increase, and smaller gains are reported in other sections. The crop is making slow progress on account of the weather, but otherwise no damage has been caused by the low temperatures.

E. W. STILLWELL,
Specialist in Market News.

(See Par. 6b on Page 52)

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. REINSPECTION OF CAR ON WHICH RESTRICTED CERTIFICATE WAS ISSUED AT SHIPPING POINT.

During the past few months, a number of inspections in receiving markets of cars, on which restricted certificates were issued at shipping points, have been made by a single inspector. Under REMARKS, statement has been made to the effect that the certificates issued did not reverse those issued at shipping point, even though the results of the complete inspection were different than those of the restricted inspection. While it is technically true that the second inspection cannot be considered a reversal of the original certificate on such lots, the fact remains that, from a commercial standpoint, the receiving-point certificate does constitute a reversal. For this reason it has been decided that, in the future, second inspections in receiving markets of cars on which restricted certificates were issued at shipping points shall be made in the same way as appeal inspections and the certificates shall be signed by the two inspectors who made the receiving-market inspection. The same statement should be made under REMARKS, however, as has been made in the past. This statement should be to the effect that, since the original certificate was restricted, the second inspection is not in conflict with the original.

If the shipper should request confirmation inspection, covering the same portion as was examined at shipping point, such inspection may be made. It is unlikely, however, that such requests will be received.

2c. INSPECTION OF MAINE POTATOES.

Under date of January 5, C. M. White, Chief of the State Division of Markets, at Augusta, Maine, issued the following circular letter, addressed to Potato Shippers:-

"Eight hundred and forty-three inspections of car lots of potatoes have been made in Aroostook County since September 7th. This is more than twice as many as have been done in an entire season before. Only two certificates, or twenty-four one hundredths of one per cent, have been reversed. This is the record of Federal-State inspection in Maine. Just how much it has saved shippers is claims we ask that you talk with those who have used the service and learn first-hand.

"Inspectors are located at the supervisor's office in Caribou, at Fort Fairfield, Houlton, Limestone, Presque Isle, Washburn and Westfield. It has been the aim to give service wherever there has seemed to be promise of enough inspections to keep the inspectors busy. At two or three of these points, work has been disappointing and the inspectors will be withdrawn directly unless business picks up. The fact that the State funds available for this purpose are about two-thirds used up makes this necessary.

"It has been a pleasure to help build up this service for the benefit of the potato industry in cooperation with the shippers of Aroostook County, and we hope for constructive suggestions for the improvement of the service and the enlargement of its usefulness."

3c. IMPORTANT DATA ON CALIFORNIA GRAPES.

The following excerpts are from a special report on the Federal-State shipping-point inspection work in California, prepared by W. F. Allewelt:

"The quality of the 1925 grape crop was generally very disappointing. In the case of juice grapes, while raisining caused less trouble than during the past two seasons, a great deal of difficulty was experienced from mold and decay. In the northern districts,- particularly Santa Rosa, Napa, Lodi, and Modesto,- Gray Mold caused heavy losses, particularly in Zinfandels, which constituted a large proportion of the juice-grape tonnage. From Modesto to the southern end of the San Joaquin Valley, probably on account of different climatic conditions, more trouble was expreienced with Black Mold. In the case of most table grapes, no unusual amount of damage from mold was encountered, but a large proportion of the production showed straggly bunches, in many cases containing a large number of shot berries. Tokays suffered to a considerable extent from sunburn and from splitting of the berries, usually followed by mold. Waterberry and Redberry were unusually common.

"All of these adverse conditions, combined with the great volume of stock to be handled, made the season a very difficult one not only for the grower, shipper and buyer, but for the inspection service as well. In spite of these facts, a number of very favorable reports on the work have been received by the Department, and it is felt that the inspection has filled an important place in the marketing of the record crop of grapes produced in 1925. Reports have been received from the Federal Inspection Service in the terminal markets, indicating that 36 appeal reinspections were made on California grape shipments, and that 24 certificates were reversed out of the total of 36,000 which were written.

"A preliminary compilation of shipment and inspection figures, made by the Cooperative Federal-State Market News and Inspection Service, indicates shipments of table grapes, to November 13, of approximately 15,500 cars, or 22% of the total; and of juice stock 56,000 cars, or 78% of total shipments. The figures for each class and important variety are as follows:

Weighted Seasonal Average Percentage of Grades, Calif. Grapes, 1925.

TABLE STOCK

Variety	Cars shipped	Percentage of U. S. Fancy Grade	Percentage of U. S. No. 1, Grade	Percentage of ungraded cars
Malagas	4250	25%	72%	3%
Thompsons	2,750	28%	71%	1%
Tokays	3900	37%	59%	4%
Emperors	3,600	43%	48%	9%#
Other Table Varieties	1000	42%	50%	8%
Weighted Avg. of all Table Grapes - - -		34%	62%	4%

Many cars of sawdust-packed Emperors, which were not "Fancy", are classed as ungraded, due to the container in which they were packed. If the same grapes had been packed in crates or lugs, the grades applying to these packages would probably have given the grapes a higher rating.

(continued on next page)

JUICE STOCK

Variety	Cars Shipped	Percentage of U. S. No. 1, Juice Grade	Percentage of U.S. No. 2 Juice Grade, and ungraded
Zinfandels	10,700	59%	41%
Alicante Bouschet	5,500	93%	7%
Other Black Juice Varieties	10,350	82%	18%
Thompsons	4,050	83%	17%
Muscats	18,000	84%	16%
Malagas	3,700	86%	14%
Tokays	1,800	44%	56%
Emperors	150	78%	22%
Other White Juice Varieties	1,650	81%	19%
Weighted Avg. of all Juice Grapes - - -		78%	22%

4c. MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS FROM PACIFIC NORTHWEST:

Shipping-point Inspectors' Letter No. 17, issued by F. E. Bailey on January 14, for Washington and Oregon inspectors, contains the following:-

- Chapin A. Mills, District Inspector at Vancouver, Washington, states that there are about 150 acres in bearing strawberries in Clark County and that the acreage will be increased about 50% this spring. Marshall and New Oregon are the varieties being planted. Mr. Mills estimates that there will be about 5,000 Bartlett pear trees planted in Clark County this spring and about half that number in Cowlitz County. Practically all of these pears are to be grown for cannery use.

- R. L. Ringer, of Portland, reports that during the period from July 1. to November 30 the following shipping-point certificates were issued in cooperation with the office of the Oregon State Market Agent:- Potatoes 697 and Onions 40. This number, added to those issued in cooperation with the Oregon State Board of Horticulture for the same period, makes a total of 4,196 certificates issued in the State to November 30.

- J. L. Griner, Washington State Supervisor of Horticulture, reports that 7,053 certificates were issued in the State of Washington during October and 3,663 during November. The total number issued from July 1, to November 30 is 16,488. A rough check of these figures against the carlot shipments of fruits and vegetables reported by Washington railroad agents to the Spokane office of the Market News Service shows that approximately half of the total shipments during this period were certified.

- The Whatcom County Potato Growers' Association, with headquarters at Bellingham, is using an octagonal potato crate for the marketing of the Whatco brand of potatoes. The crates are reported to cost 17¢ as compared with the present price of 16¢ for new sacks. Advantages of the crates are that potatoes can be stored more easily and the stacks can be higher; the crates also afford more protection to the stock. The Association expects to handle 10,000 cases of potatoes this year; all of them are being graded on the basis of the U. S. grades.

5c. DO NOT REPORT RESULTS OF PRELIMINARY OR FINAL INSPECTION UPON APPEAL REQUESTS UNTIL CERTIFICATE IS IN FINAL FORM.

Several complications have been caused recently by inspectors reporting the results of preliminary examinations to interested parties before appeal inspections have been made or before supervisors have issued final instructions for handling the cases in question. Making preliminary reports of this kind is always dangerous and inspectors will save themselves much trouble and the service much embarrassment, if they will refuse to give out any reports until the certificate is in final form. It is not necessary that the certificate actually be typed and mailed before a report is given, but the inspector should always be able to say: "The certificate will show----------."

The next three items are from California Inspectors' Notes, No. 3:

6c. LOS ANGELES INSPECTION DEAL.

F. C. Cadwallader writes from Los Angeles that business has increased since the holidays and from 15 to 20 cars a day are being inspected at present. Though the cauliflower crop is about equal to last year's acreage, the percentage being inspected is not as great because most of the crop fails to grade on account of spread or ricey heads. The El Monte celery will not grade on account of growth cracks and is not being inspected. The American Fruit Growers, who are to handle about 50% of the Venice celery crop this spring, have asked for inspection on their entire output there, some 75 cars. This deal has begun in a small way, with one or two cars, and will last until the main crop comes on in about four months.

7c. CHULA VISTA CELERY INSPECTIONS.

C. A. Lodge finished a small lettuce and potato deal at Murietta, Riverside County, last week and is now in San Diego, where he expects to certify about 200 cars of celery for the American Fruit Growers, Jack O'Brien, and the Randolph Marketing Company at Chula Vista. The Murietta deal promises to open again in March, when they expect to have about 300 acres of lettuce ready for shipment.

8c. ALAMEDA COUNTY DEAL.

K. R. Nutting writes that the broccoli is maturing slowly on account of the cold weather, but that the quality is the best he has ever seen and packers have little difficulty making U.S. No. 1. Mr. Nutting has offices with the Farm Advisor at Hayward and expects to get some 500 cars of broccoli and several hundred cars of peas, beans and odd stuff during the spring deal there. Rhubarb growers, he says, are planning to market through Cunha Bros. Auction, which is similar to the green pea auction.

To date, about 50 cooperative associations, marketing fruits and vegetables, have signified their intention of trying out the proposed standard trading rules, drafted by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. About 1,800 replies have been received to the questionnaire sent out, and practically all of these replies are in favor of the trading rules.

9c. EXHIBIT AT N. Y. HORTICULTURAL SHOW.

In a letter of January 17, O. N. Harsha included the following description of a recent exhibit, on display at Rochester:-

"The annual meeting of the New York Horticultural Society was held, as usual, in Rochester at Edgerton Park on January 13, 14 and 15, and the State Department of Farms and Markets had one of the best exhibits the writer has ever witnessed, from an educational point of view. The exhibit was arranged and the supplies procured by Messrs. Harry H. and Spencer G. Duncan, both of whom are inspectors for the State of New York under the cooperative agreement with the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The exhibit over-all was about 50 feet long, and running from left to right was arranged as follows:

"A frame about 8 feet high and 10 feet long held lithographed views of diseased specimens of fruits and vegetables, ranging from apples to peaches and from cabbage to potatoes, - in fact, all of the principal perishables grown in the State. One row showed inspectors at work, inspecting carlot shipments.

"Next to this was a long bench with bins, the central bin containing U. S. Grade No. 1 potatoes, the balance showing the various diseased potatoes as follows: grub, misshapen, growth cracks, wire-worm, cuts, scab, Late Blight, second growth, sunburn, dry-rots, freezing injury with soft rot, and hollow heart. This is the same exhibit that this department had in the recent Erie Potato Special, and the writer thought, when he first viewed this display, that one could come pretty near being an inspector of potatoes after studying such a display. Next to the potatoes were bins, containing the more common apple defects of this State. Above these displays was a big sign reading 'Buy Graded Produce; These Grade Defects Not Permitted in U. S. Grades or N. Y. Standard Grades.'

"Next in line, the three Federal and three State apple grades were illustrated in cut-down barrels, there being two barrels for each grade, one with a face end opened, the other with the center of a barrel exposed, showing how it should appear. No attempt was made to have the apples appear any better than would be expected ordinarily in commercial practice.

"In front of these displays were two barrels of Baldwin apples, from which samples were taken at intervals to demonstrate how inspections are actually made at shipping-point. A supply of the various Federal grades was distributed.

"Numerous signs were up, to advertise the service to those in attendance. Mr. Prugh's reports were on hand daily for distribution, together with some summaries of last year's work. It is quite likely that this same exhibit will be put on at the Horticultural Show to be held at Poughkeepsie in February."

10c. PROSPERITY IN IDAHO FALLS SECTION.

A letter recently received by the Rochester office from a potato dealer at Idaho Falls, Idaho, includes the following statement:

"Times are good here now. The banks have never had as much money on deposit as they have at this time. The big crops and high prices of all farm crops for the past two years have made a great change in this part of the country."

11c. PEANUT GRADES FOUND SATISFACTORY.

R. R. Pailthorp returned last Friday and P. D. Rupert returned on Tuesday from their conferences with peanut interests in the vicinity of Suffolk, Va. Mr. Rupert had prepared tentative grades for jumbo-type farmers' stock and for runner, bunch or mixed-type farmers' stock. The specifications were discussed with the growers' association and with shellers. The association particularly found the grades apparently satisfactory, and this organization expects to use them during the coming season. Other members of the industry also plan to make use of these new grades, when they are formally promulgated. The satisfactory results accomplished at Suffolk this winter are a testimonial to the excellent work which has been done by Mr. Rupert in furtherance of the grading and inspection of peanuts.

12c. COMPUTATION TABLE FOR PEANUT INSPECTORS.

Attached to this D. L. is a special table, giving computations for use of peanut inspectors. In submitting this table, R. M. Ferguson, of the Minneapolis office, wrote as follows: "I am enclosing a table of percentages that I have found useful in determining the percentages of defects in peanut samples. The table saves a little time, but its greatest value is that it reduces the changes of errors in computations to a minimum. Perhaps some of the other offices will find it useful."

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

(continued from Page 46)

6b. RADIO REPORTS POPULAR IN WESTERN NEW YORK.

As a result of the questionnaire recently sent to all persons on the Rochester mailing list, A E. Prugh states that replies to date indicate that 50% more farmers than last year are receiving the market reports by radio. The digest of the daily reports, as published in local newspapers, also seems to be very popular. An article in the Rochester Democrat and Chronicle describes the operation and value of the market news service and brings out the interesting results of Mr. Prugh's circularization of his mailing list. The story is illustrated with a half-tone picture of Mr. Prugh.

OFFICE NOTES:

P. D. Rupert, of the Washington staff, leaves the service today, his resignation being effective January 23. Mr. Rupert's departure is announced with regret. He expects to be connected with the Rochester office of the Provident Mutual Life Insurance Company, of Philadelphia, Pa., and our best wishes for success follow him in this new field. Mr. Rupert was appointed to the Inspection Service in August, 1923. He has been stationed in Chicago and New York City, and has done considerable shipping-point work, especially in Florida, Georgia and Maryland. For the past year or more, he has been on Mr. Samson's staff and has given particular attention to the grading and inspection of peanuts. In fact, Mr. Rupert assisted in formulating the present grades for peanuts, which grades are being actively used in the annual inspection of about 2,000 cars of this product.

Though first-hand news of this happy event was not received from W. F. Cox himself, through those in close touch with him we have learned of Mr. Cox' marriage to Miss Hilda Spirk, at Wilber, Nebr., about Christmas time. Congratulations and best wishes! Mr. Cox is now in charge of the Idaho Falls field station.

E. E. Conklin, Jr., conferred with potato growers and shippers at several points in Aroostook County, Maine, this week. He expects to reach Boston by Saturday and New York City on Monday, returning to the Washington office by Tuesday, January 26.

J. D. Evers left Washington for Brownsville, Texas, this morning. He expects to go straight through to San Antonio, where he will stop off Monday for a conference with J. A. Hunter before proceeding to the Lower Valley. It is likely that visits will be made to various shipping points in the Valley, before the field station is opened at Brownsville on February 1.

Miss Pearl Edwards and Miss Lottie Sommers returned to duty in Washington the early part of this week. Both were on vacation over the holidays, and Miss Edwards was detained in Georgia by accident to her mother, while Miss Sommers was detained in Missouri on account of the illness of her mother.

H. W. Schneck, of the Chicago inspection staff, leaves this evening for Atlanta, where he will assist temporarily with the rush of inspection work.

This week, Herbert Graff had to go to Richmond, Va., to inspect a car of potatoes in that market.

An excellent photograph has been received of the recent inspectors' training class in Chicago. All of the nine men in this class, except G. H. Irish, are in the picture, along with R. C. Bubner, M. A. Russell and Dr. D. H. Rose. Evidently Mr. Irish could not be present at the time the photograph was taken.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

A TEMPORARY OFFICE of the Inspection Service will be established at Duluth, Minn., about February 15, principally for the inspection of apples in storage at that point. This special work probably will be handled by P. T. Baden, of the Chicago staff.

WICHITA, KANS., will again have a permanent office of the Inspection Service, beginning about February 1. Exact location of theoffice will be announced next week, and should then be advertised as widely as possible. A. S. Mason goes from New York City, to take charge of this work. Issuance of the revised list of inspection offices is being deferred a few days longer, in order to include this new station.

Since publication of the verses on the Chicago training class, in the Division Letter for January 8, a number of inspectors have been inspired to write similar verses regarding the local work. It is regretted that space does not permit the publishing of further contributions along this line, interesting as are these verses.

Cooperative arrangements are being made, whereby R. M. Ferguson, of the Minneapolis office, will do some egg inspection work for the Land o' Lakes Creamery Association in the Twin Cities. This special work will be done after regular office hours. Our Dairy Products Division for some time has been inspecting Land o' Lakes creamery butter, - a widely advertised product, carrying Government certificate of inspection.

No list of temporary field stations of the Market News Service appears in this D. L., because there have been practically no changes since last week. Market reports on celery were not started at Sanford, Fla., on January 19, as listed, but probably will begin today. The Idaho Falls field station probably will close on April 15 instead of 30.

E. J. Powell, of the California staff, had a much-needed vacation last week. He was down with the "flu," but has now returned to duty.

In the D. L. for January 2, announcement was made of the fact that F. M. Patton, of the Washington staff, had been very ill at his home in this city since Christmas. He underwent a serious operation at the George Washington University Hospital yesterday morning. Mr. Patton's friends are hoping for his early recovery. Latest reports are very favorable.

Computations on a basis of 3,000 Grams,
for use in
Inspections of Peanuts.

Grams	Per-Cent	Grams	Per-cent	Grams	Per-cent
.1	.003	29	.966	66	2.200
.2	.006	30	1.000	67	2.233
.3	.010	31	1.033	68	2.266
.4	.013	32	1.066	69	2.300
.5	.016	33	1.100	70	2.333
.6	.020	34	1.133	71	2.366
.7	.023	35	1.166	72	2.400
.8	.026	36	1.200	73	2.433
.9	.030	37	1.233	74	2.466
1	.033	38	1.266	75	2.500
2	.066	39	1.300	76	2.533
3	.100	40	1.333	77	2.566
4	.133	41	1.366	78	2.600
5	.166	42	1.400	79	2.633
6	.200	43	1.433	80	2.666
7	.233	44	1.466	81	2.700
8	.266	45	1.500	82	2.733
9	.300	46	1.533	83	2.766
10	.333	47	1.566	84	2.800
11	.366	48	1.600	85	2.833
12	.400	49	1.633	86	2.866
13	.433	50	1.666	87	2.900
14	.466	51	1.700	88	2.933
15	.500	52	1.733	89	2.966
16	.533	53	1.766	90	3.000
17	.566	54	1.800	91	3.033
18	.600	55	1.833	92	3.066
19	.633	56	1.866	93	3.100
20	.666	57	1.900	94	3.133
21	.700	58	1.933	95	3.166
22	.733	59	1.966	96	3.200
23	.766	60	2.000	97	3.233
24	.800	61	2.033	98	3.266
25	.833	62	2.066	99	3.300
26	.866	63	2.100	100	3.333
27	.900	64	2.133		
28	.933	65	2.166		

TOLERANCES

SHELLED WHITE SPANISH

U.S. 1:	
Other varieties	1%
Split or broken	2%
Small shriveled	2%
Unshelled or damaged	.75%
Foreign material	.25%
Noticeably discolored	1.25%
(of which 1/5 may be badly discolored)	
U.S. 2:	
Other varieties	1%
Small pieces or small shriveled	6%
Unshelled or damaged	1.50%
Foreign material	.25%

SHELLED RUNNER PEANUTS

U.S. 1:	
Other varieties	1%
Split or broken	3%
Small shriveled	2%
Unshelled or damaged	1.25%
Foreign material	.25%
U.S. 2:	
Other varieties	1%
Small pieces or small shriveled	6%
Unshelled or damaged	1.50%
Foreign material	.25%

This sheet issued on Jan. 22,1926.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 7, NO. 5
January 29, 1926.
(Contents Confidential)

1a. POTATO SITUATION IN NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA.

On January 14, Frederick C. Johnson, the American Vice Consul at Fredericton, made the following report on the potato situation in New Brunswick. This is of special interest because of the proximity of the New Brunswick potato section to Aroostook County, Maine:-

"The expectation that, after the first of the year, there would be a very considerable increase in shipments of potatoes from New Brunswick to the United States has not been realized. On the contrary, the embargo of January 3rd, placed upon shipments of potatoes to New York, has been a great disappointment to the dealers here. Reduction in the consumption is said to have resulted in a congestion of carloads of potatoes on the railways, so that there have been practically no shipments of New Brunswick potatoes to the United States in January to date.

"There is little evidence that there is any desire on the part of the dealers to take over further supplies of potatoes, as the supply on hand exceeds the demand. As the winter advances and there is evidence of rot and shrinkage in the farmers' stocks, it is probable that they will endeavor to move the stores of potatoes which they have been hoarding in the expectation of high prices. The price then is likely to take a material drop.

"Shipments to the Cuban market are reported to be made weekly, at the rate of approximately 10,000 barrels per week. The prices are given as $7 and $8.50 per barrel (165 pounds), paid for New Brunswick potatoes landed in Cuba.

"The price paid to the growers (at date of writing) is $5.50. To this must be added 10¢ per barrel for loading, a charge which is considered excessive but is demanded. To this must be added the expense of supplying heated cars; the estimates for which include supplying a stove, fuel, piping, and a caretaker, whose wages are $3.00 per day. These expenses, in conjunction with the freight charges and commissions, are said to net the shipper a profit of only 10¢ per barrel. If the shipper makes a clear profit of 10¢ per barrel, he considers that he is doing well."

2a. YEARBOOK SEPARATE ON FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.

The 80 pages of the 1924 Yearbook, covering statistics on fruits and vegetables, - with comparative figures for previous years, - have now been issued as Yearbook Separate No. 908, and are now available in that form. Any offices having the complete Yearbook will scarcely need this Separate No. 908, but other offices may desire copies. BEAR IN MIND, however, that all figures on 1924 acreage, production, etc., are preliminary, and that the latest revised statistics for 1924 appear in the December, 1925, Supplement to "Crops and Markets."

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. POTATO HOLDINGS IN MAINE.

With further reference to the large mailing list at the Presque Isle field station, H. E. Rutland wrote as follows as January 23:-

"I hardly know what to assign as the reason for the large mailing list. I do not think there is a much greater proportion of stock in farmers' hands than last year, and not by any means so large a quantity of stock. I rather think it is because of the value of the potatoes held. A man with 300 barrels of potatoes last year had very little reason to be interested, as the value represented was only about $150. This year the same quantity means nearly $2,000. to him. There are many farmers still holding 5,000 to 10,000 barrels, and a few with as many as 20,000. The smaller farmers, who were compelled to sell early, have a very small part of their crop left.

"I believe that only about 14,000 cars remain in the county to be shipped. Some dealers guess as high as 16,000, while a few guess as low as 12,500. At any rate, indications here point toward very high prices before the season is over, as shipments are being made fast and, at the present rate, will use up all available supplies long before the new crop comes on in the South."

2b. COMMENDATION OF MARKET REPORTS.

In reply to a circular letter sent to the Rochester mailing list, one of the growers of cabbage and potatoes at Moravia, N.Y., sent the following commendation of the news service:

"I am very much interested in these market reports and wish you to continue sending them. I have been getting them for the past 4 or 5 years and they are a wonderful help. One of my neighbors sold his potatoes for $1. I asked him to wait and told him he would get more, but he thought not and said these reports did not know anything about what prices would be. I told him he would double his price by Dec. 1, and I did sell most of my crop for $2 the last of Nov., and that is not all, - I made a good last year, following these reports."

3b. RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN TEXAS NEWS SERVICE.

In order that operators in southern Texas might get better reception (clearness) on the daily radio reports, broadcast from San Antonio, J. A. Hunter has arranged to have these market reports broadcast from Station WOAI, of the Southern Equipment Company. In a recent letter, he says that "nearly every shipper of consequence in the spinach deal now has his radio set, as have many of the leading hotels in the upper counties." The local Chamber of Commerce at San Antonio is helping to finance this part of the work. Newspapers throughout Texas are continuing their cordial cooperation in publishing the daily reports, devoting considerable space to this news. Mr. Hunter's recent reports on frost damage in South Texas were featured in many of the papers.

4b. FEATURES OF MARKET REPORTS AT EL CENTRO, CALIF.

Writing from El Centro, Calif., on January 21, C. E. Schultz tells of some interesting developments in the market news service on lettuce:-

"The office of the Shipping-Point Inspection Service is again located next to our office. This has made it very easy for us to work together on many points regarding inspection service which are suitable for general publicity and cooperative effort.

"A copy of our lettuce bulletin No. 8 is enclosed. You will note on page two of this report that we have given a table of shipping-point inspections, worked out on a percentage basis for the most important quality factors and also a percentage of the U. S. No. 1 grades being certified. In addition to this, we are also giving the daily percentage of the U.S. No. 1 certifications, as you will note on page two of today's bulletin. This information is attracting considerable attention among buyers and shippers and is regarded as a close approximation indicating the general quality of loadings.

"The State inspectors are also rendering valuable assistance in the distribution of our reports to the various packing sheds in the Valley. Between 125 and 150 sheds are being utilized for lettuce-packing this season. These are located mainly around Brawley, El Centro, Heber, Calexico, and Holtville. The mail service to these various points is quite slow and it is impossible to make regular delivery of reports by mail much before the day following publication. This year we have worked out a system whereby bundles of bulletins are sent by stage to inspectors covering the sheds in each of the above-named districts. It is necessary for us to release the bulletin around 12:30 o'clock or shortly thereafter, in order to get them out by the 1 o'clock stages for these various points. The Postal Telegraph Company has been very courteous in extending to us, free of charge, the services of a messenger boy to deliver the various bundles from this office to the stage office. The inspectors take the bundles, upon receipt in the several districts, and deliver the bulletins promptly to the shippers on their run. This work is very popular with the shippers and is also of some advantage to the inspectors, for it gives them a chance to keep in daily contact with the men who make use of the shipping-point inspection service. The expense of sending these reports by stage amounts to 25¢ per day on each package. In Calexico, this is taken care of by the Calexico Chonicle; in Brawley, the Brawley News pays the bill; and at the other points the Inspection Service pays for the transmittal by stage."

Below is a copy of that part of the Lettuce Market Report for January 12, to which Mr. Schultz calls special attention:

SHIPPING POINT INSPECTIONS INDICATE QUALITY

The following table of percentages was obtained by a check of Federal-State inspection certificates on Imperial Valley lettuce to date this season. Comparison of inspection records from the start of this season to January 2, is made with the records of last week:

Average Percentages of Carlot Inspections of Lettuce

	1925-26 Season to January 2.	Week Ending January 9.
Solid Heads	11 %	24 %
Firm Heads	75 %	65 %
Soft Heads	14 %	11 %
U.S. No. 1 Grade	24 %	24 %

During the past week the most serious defects, aside from softness, were found to have been burst and open heads.

5b. IMPERIAL VALLEY LETTUCE DEAL ACTIVE.

The following report came from C. E. Schultz under date of January 22:-

"Imperial Valley lettuce shipments totaled close to 3,000 cars by January 21, which is double last year's movement to that date and 1,000 cars more than two years ago. Movement has not been so heavy as some had expected, although it exceeds all previous records to date. Rainy weather during the latter part of December produced a large quantity of loose, soft-headed stock, which was not received very well by the trade. While the fair-quality stock from Imperial Valley was moving during the latter part of December and the early part of January, there was also a very considerable volume of fair to ordinary stock coming from Arizona. The shipping-point market was maintained around $1.75 to $2.50 per crate, but these prices were later found to be unjustified when the stock began arriving in the terminal markets. During the third week of January, city sales represented a loss of $200 to $500 per car to buyers who had purchased at the f.o.b. prices prevailing at time of shipment. This caused a sharp reduction in the demand of cash buyers and a material weakening of f.o.b. market, starting about the middle of January. By the 20th of the month prices had dropped to $1.25-1.60 on 4 to 5 dozens in California crates, carloads cash-track. Cool weather which occurred at this time, together with the lower market, caused shippers to retard cutting and permit the stock to be more fully matured before shipment was attempted. This, after a few days, created a healthy reaction in the market and also improved the quality being packed. At the present time there is a very good demand for good, firm or solid stock and prices are advancing slightly.

"No predictions as to future developments in this deal are of any material value, because harvesting is regulated almost entirely by the weather and the markets. There has been some increase in plantings this season and, because of generally favorable weather conditions, it can be expected that more lettuce will be available for shipment than last year and probably many more cars will be shipped by the end of the season. But, just how all this will develop, is any man's guess and predictions for one day ahead are very difficult, to say nothing of one week or one month in advance.

"The Imperial Valley lettuce deal seems to have attracted the attention of many new operators this year, for there are nearly double the number of cash buyers on the ground that were here a year ago. There are also many new packing sheds and an increase of around 30% in the number of shippers, who total close to 100 at the present time."

6b. ANOTHER COMMENDATION OF NEWS SERVICE.

Mrs. Gerry, of the Spokane office, received the following letter from one of the leading apple shippers in the State of Washington: "Be sure to keep me on the list for your market reports. We read these very carefully and think they are of very great value to us and to the apple industry in the Northwest. This service has developed to be a very much greater benefit than I had dared to hope. I was very anxious to see it installed at first, but scarcely hoped that you would get so complete statistics and so good a market report."

7b. DEVELOPMENTS IN FLORIDA CITRUS DEAL.

R. H. Lamb, of the Orlando office, has been serving as an impartial compiler of statistics in connection with the Fruitman's Club, and has assisted in releasing some very interesting figures. Under date of January 21, the Secretary of the Club distributed to all members a mimeographed sheet, showing the estimated quantity of citrus to be shipped after January 20. At a special meeting of the Club on that date, members from various sections of the State gave their estimates of the degreee or percentage to which this season's movement would fall below that of last season. The figures determined were a decrease of 25% for oranges and 30% for grapefruit. On the basis of shipments from last yeards crop, it was estimated that this season's total shipments probably would be 8,228,000 boxes of oranges and 5,723,000 boxes of grapefruit, or a total of 13,951,000. Last season the movement totaled 11,000,000 boxes of oranges and 8,200,000 boxes of grapefruit, or 28,251 and 21,201 cars respectively, including mixed shipments. Reduced to carloads, this year's total shipments are figured at 21,188 cars and 14,841 cars, respectively, which would leave 11,412 cars of oranges and 8,674 cars of grapefruit yet to be shipped after January 20.

Mr. Lamb also prepared some very interesting charts, showing the weekly movement of Florida citrus this season and last season to date, as well as the weekly shipments from other States. Another graph shows the average daily carlot movement of citrus fruits from Florida and for all shipping States, with horizontal lines indicating the monthly averages. Those interested in this form of statistical material on citrus fruit movement can obtain copies of the charts from Mr. Lamb, P.O. Box 188, Orlando, Fla.

Considerable success has been met in efforts to have the local newspapers publish a daily summary of citrus shipments and passings. Two of the papers at Orlando now use this material, and Mr. Lamb considers this quite an achievement in view of the fact that there is great demand for newspaper space for real-estate advertising. These two papers have a circulation of approximately 15,000 copies and cover the central part of the State completely.

Demand for citrus has been rather limited lately, and efforts are being made through the Fruitman's Club to limit the number of cars forwarded daily. Reasons given for the lessened demand are the fact that January usually is a poor month for sales of citrus fruit; the weather has been cold in northern markets, and the big trade organizations have been holding their annual conventions in three widely-separated cities. The following paragraph on f.o.b. prices is taken from Mr. Lamb's letter of January 22:

"Generally speaking, the grapefruit market has held quite steady, although at the present time some weakness is being noted. A top of $3.00 for the best brands of grapefruit is still in force, but many sales have been reported at $2.25 to $2.75 for fruit of inferior quality. The orange market shows a wide variation, with the 'usual terms' buying based largely, of course, on a declining auction market and ranging anywhere from $2.50 to $3.00, which is about 50¢ to $1.00 lower than the prices that prevailed during the holiday season."

DAILY RADIO reports from Station WHAM, at Rochester, N.Y., include the current day's f.o.b. prices on apples and vegetables, even before the information appears on the mimeographed market reports.

8b. ADVERTISE NEW INSPECTION OFFICE.

The Wichita, Kans., office of the Inspection Service will be reopened about February 1. A. S. Mason will be the inspector in charge, and his address will be; Farm Bureau Offices, Chamber of Commerce, Wichita. All market news reports, issued at market and field stations during the next few days, should carry a boxed notice concerning this inspection station.

9b. SUMMARY OF LOUISIANA BERRY DEAL, 1925.

There was recently distributed a Summary of the Louisiana Strawberry Deal, Season of 1925, by A. E. Prugh. The front cover is decorated with a picture of a large strawberry, below which is an outline map of the State, showing some of the leading towns and cities, as well as the principal parishes shipping berries. The 1925 carlot shipments are listed by stations. This summary includes copies of carlot auction sheets, showing the sales as transacted at Hammond and Ponchatoula. Special reference is made to Federal and to State inspection of strawberries. Freight and refrigeration costs are given on shipments to 50 different markets.

10b. NEWARK MARKET REPORT BEING BROADCAST.

A recent letter from Burton W. Sherburne, Market Specialist on the New Jersey staff, includes the information that the Newark market report will be broadcast by the Radio Shop, at Newark, daily, beginning on January 25. Though the radius of this station is rather limited, it is believed that this service will be of special benefit to growers in the territory, who haul their produce to the Newark market and to New York City.

11b. MINNESOTA POTATO SITUATION.

The following telegram was received from R. M. Peterson, of the Minneapolis office, on January 25:-

"Approximately 7,000 cars potatoes yet to move from Minnesota. Unable estimate what percentage is seed stock. Unusually small amount seed stock sold to date. Dealers feel heavy demand for seed must come next two or three weeks, or southern plantings will be so light as to make old potatoes very high in May and June."

12b. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR JANUARY 23:

Page 53 - Special paragraphs on apples in the weekly review.
55 - Wisconsin Potatoes Moving Rapidly, - by W. H. Mosier.
- Additional Market News Field Stations.
64 - British Apple Market Slow.
- The 1925 Australasian Apple Season.

13b. CIRCULAR EXPLAINING THE MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

At request of Prof. Spencer, for use in the marketing class at Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y., the Rochester office prepared a special mimeographed circular, entitled: "An Explanation of the Operation of U.S. Market News Service." This is a concise and interesting statement by Mr. Prugh, and makes particular reference to the service in New York State.

E. W. STILLWELL, Spec. in Mkt.News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably Will Close
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	Mrs. L. B. Gerry	Apples	Aug. 24	Mar. 15
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO 230 Federal Bldg.	845	W. F. Cox	Potatoes	Sept. 2	Apr. 15
ROCHESTER, N. Y.** 419 Triangle Bldg.	837	A. E. Prugh	Apples	Sept. 4	Apr. 1
			Pears*	Sept. 4	Oct. 31*
			Cabbage	Sept. 4	Mar. 1
			Onions	Sept. 14	Mar. 1
			Peaches*	Sept. 14	Oct. 3*
			Celery*	Sept. 16	Jan. 23*
			Potatoes	Sept. 16	Apr. 1
			Grapes*	Sept. 21	Oct. 31*
			Carrots	Sept. 23	Mar. 1
PRESQUE ISLE, ME. Graves Hardware Block	842	H. E. Rutland	Potatoes	Sept. 8	Apr. 1
WAUPACA, WIS.** Court House	894	W. H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 14	Apr. 30
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.** 419 Federal Bldg. MAIL: P. O. Box 86	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Apples *	Oct. 7	Nov. 24*
			Potatoes	Oct. 7	June 1
			Onions	Oct. 7	Mar. 1
ORLANDO, FLA.** 20 Phillips Bldg. MAIL: P.O. Box 188	920	R. H. Lamb	Citrus Fruit	Nov. 2	Apr. 15
EL CENTRO, CALIF. Barbara Worth Hotel	933	C. E. Schultz	Lettuce	Jan. 4	Apr. 10
SANFORD, FLA.** Court House	910	R. L. Sutton	Celery	Jan. 22	Apr. 10
BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS** Chamber of Commerce	931	J. D. Evers	Cabbage	Feb. 1	May 1
			Beets & Carrots	Feb. 1	May 1
			Lettuce	Feb. 1	Feb. 27
			Potatoes	Mar. 15	May 1
			Stg. Beans	Apr. 1	May 1
			Tomatoes	Apr. 15	May 1

** State cooperating

* Reports discontinued.

Spokane, Idaho Falls and Presque Isle reports are now on a thrice-weekly basis.

(KEEP THIS SHEET FOR REFERENCE. It may not be issued again for a month.)

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. COPIES DESIRED ON ARIZONA LETTUCE INSPECTIONS.

For the next week or two, no shipping-point inspections probably will be made on Arizona lettuce, but the work is expected to be resumed sometime in February. F. S. Kinsey, therefore, is remaining for the present in our Los Angeles office, Room 206 Wholesale Terminal Building. He has requested that market inspectors please send him a copy of all certificates on Arizona lettuce, addressing them to Los Angeles. He says that he understands there is some trouble on account of marginal browning. Part of a letter of January 21 from Mr. Kinsey is as follows:

"In one of the recent Division Letters appeared a rather gloomy write-up of the lettuce inspection situation in Arizona. Soon after I left Phoenix, however, things picked up. Lest it be generally believed that everything is as dead as the cliff dwellers, please announce further through the Division Letter that, during the first 15 days of January, 234 cars of lettuce were inspected. Three men were employed. About 70 cars were inspected in December, 234 between January 1 and 15, and 11 cars each on January 16 and 17, making a total of 326 up to the night of the 17th."

2c. POTATO SITUATION IN EASTERN IDAHO.

On his return from a trip through the eastern part of Idaho, L. G. Schultz, of the Boise office, wrote in part as follows:

"The one surprising feature of the trip was that there is a much larger quantity of potatoes still on hand than we had supposed. Shipments have been quite heavy for the last few weeks, running from 75 to 125 cars a day. The percentage of shipments going east is much heavier than last season. This is no doubt due to the short crop in that section of the country. If the potatoes are to clean up before June, movement will (in the opinion of most shippers) have to hold up to a minimum of 75 cars a day. This is probably a little high, but, from all indications at the present time, there are between 5,000 and 6,000 cars left in the State. The exact number to be shipped will depend a great deal upon the market. There has been a large quantity of low-grade stock shipped, which, in an ordinary season with normal prices, would have been left at home.

"In the upper part of the valley, where the freezing injury was so severe, shippers have been concentrating on the injured stock, as it naturally was not holding up so well as that dug prior to the freeze. They have just about cleaned up on this type of stock and there will be a larger proportion of No. 1 grade shipped from now on. The loss from the freeze is generally placed between 1,500 and 2,000 cars. A large amount of stock was lost, of course, from coming in contact with the potatoes which were actually frozen and decayed or from staining when stored in the same bins. It certainly will be a relief to all concerned, to get cleaned up on this class of stock."

"WINTER FRUIT SUPPLIES IN PARIS" is the title of mimeographed report F.S.: A-42, by Edwin Smith, of the London office. This was issued on January 19, and copies can be had from Foreign Marketing Section.

3c. THE GRADING OF MAINE POTATOES.

On his return from an investigational trip to Aroostook County, Maine, and to eastern markets, E. E. Conklin, Jr., reports that the present grades for potatoes seem to be satisfactory and there appears to be no reason for changing them. The few cases where there has been trouble with inspections have been chiefly the result of misunderstanding on the part of the trade, particularly as to the interpretation of "blemishes."

4c. NOTES ON VARIOUS CALIFORNIA DEALS.

The following report was received from H. D. Green, of the Sacramento office:- "Lettuce shippers and produce firms are now benefiting by the publication of quality and condition reports, compiled from Federal-State inspection certificates issued in the Imperial Valley. The percentages of solid, firm, fairly firm, and soft heads, and the percentage of cars certified as U.S. No.1, are averaged, and the results are published each week in the daily market reports issued by C. E. Schultz of the U.S. Market News Service, El Centro. (See Par. 4b in this Division Letter.- Editor)

"As Federal-State inspections are being made on 15% to 20% of the total shipments of lettuce leaving the Imperial Valley at present, these averages furnish the most accurate information available on the quality and condition of shipments. Although similar reports were issued during the grape deal last fall and occasional statements have been published, based on Federal-State certificates as to quality and condition, this is the first season that detailed reports on lettuce have been issued regularly. The publication of authentic figures on the quality of shipments, as well as the number of cars and market prices, is meeting with great favor among the shippers.

"The lettuce report for January 9 shows that 24% of the cars inspected met the requirements of U.S. No.1 grade. The remaining shipments failed to grade, mainly on account of soft heads, though some have been burst or open.

"Sam Preston, in charge of the Federal-State inspection work in the Valley, states that the percentage of cars grading U.S. No.1 during the week ending January 16 will be less than the previous average. The weather has been warm for the proper maturing of the heads, but there is a large acreage which would firm-up rapidly with a few cold nights. The heavy run of shipments is expected between the 20th of this month and the 10th or 15th of February. In 1924 about 1,809 cars were Federal-State inspected in the Imperial Valley, and last year 2,468 cars were certified.

"W. F. Allewelt, Chief, and Stanley Rogers, Assistant Chief of the Bureau of Fruit and Vegetable Standardization, State Department of Agriculture, are starting on a trip covering the southern coastal sections, for the purpose of meeting with some of the growers there and discussing with them the standardization regulations covering their various crops. A meeting of lettuce and tomato growers and shippers will be held at Oxnard on January 27, followed by a meeting of the avocado growers in Santa Barbara on the same day. Messrs. Allewelt and Rogers will also visit the Horticultural Commissioners of San Luis Obispo, Monterey, Santa Cruz, San Benito, and Santa Clara counties before their return."

5c. INSPECTION RECORDS IN MAINE.

Below is a table compiled by G. R. Warren, Federal Supervising Inspector at Caribou, Maine, showing figures for the first four months of the season on Federal-State shipping-point inspection of Maine potatoes. The present volume of business is compared with that of other years:

	State Inspection	Federal-State Inspection	Federal-State Inspection	No inspection was attempted	Federal-State Inspection
	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Sept.	-	17	10	-	203
Oct.	-	63	-	-	230
Nov.	15	70	-	-	161
Dec.	12	65	-	-	239
Total	27	215	10	-	833

In 1921, one inspector was working, being supervised from Augusta. Of the 27 cars inspected, about 92% graded U.S. No.1. In 1922, three inspectors were employed, with a Federal Supervisor directing. About 94% of the 215 cars inspected graded U.S. No.1. During 1923, the work was negligible and was discontinued on account of lack of any definite guarantee. In 1924, no inspection was attempted. During a similar period this present season 833 cars were inspected by an average of about 7 men and one Federal Supervisor stationed in Caribou. Approximately 89% graded U.S. No.1.

6c. FLORIDA SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTIONS.

The following inspections were made at shipping points in Florida during the period January 1 to 15, 1926:-

F R U I T S

Section	Grapefruit	Oranges	Tangerines	Mixed Citrus	Total
Clermont	1	1	0	1	3
DeLand	0	7	0	22	9
Groveland	0	1	0	0	1
Lakeland	4	3	0	6	13
Leesburg	1	0	0	7	8
Mt. Dora	1	0	6	3	10
Ocala	0	8	1	5	14
Palmetto	-	-	-	-	-
Tavares	2	0	1	0	3
Umatilla	5	10	2	8	25
Total	14	30	10	32	86
Reported previously	171	242	29	91	533
Total to January 15:	185	272	39	123	619

V E G E T A B L E S

	Celery	Total
Palmetto	6	6

TOTAL INSPECTIONS TO JANUARY 15 THIS SEASON - - - - 625

7c. BROGDEX PROCESS FOR APPLES.

The following article was prepared by F.E. Bailey, of the Spokane office:-

During the past season, the Kennewick unit of the Yakima Fruit Growers' Association conducted an extensive commercial test of the Brogdex process for apples, following several seasons of experimental tests. All of the house pack, or about 160,000 boxes, including all of the commercial fall and winter varieties grown in the district, were treated.

The packing plant was equipped with two of the machines built, installed, and operated under lease by the Brogdex Company of California. Each machine was connected by a belt conveyer to the Cutler grader and sizer, which it fed. In the process, the fruit is carried for a distance of 10 or 12 feet through the "troughs" formed by parallel, rotary, bristle brushes extending lengthwise of the machines. Four brushes, placed side by side and in horizontal plane, form three "troughs" or channels which allow three "trains" of fruit to move through a machine simultaneously. The brushes are about 14 inches in diameter. Belts suspended over the "troughs" carry pendent tongues four inches long and spaced at six-inch intervals. These belts aid the motion of the brushes in propelling the fruit through the machines.

Midway of the course, the fruit passes under a nozzle, emitting a minute stream of liquid paraffin, diluted with a small amount of highly-refined petroleum oil (almost identical with the petroleum oil sold for medicinal uses). Electric heaters keep the mixture in the liquid state at about 100 degrees F., both in the feed reservoirs and in the pipes leading to the nozzles.

That portion of the brushes, over which the fruit passes before reaching the nozzle, acts as a polisher or wiper, removing most of the adherent dust and spray residue found on fruit as it comes from the orchard. The portion of the brush following the nozzle works the warm solution thoroughly over the fruit surface, so that only the deeper parts of the calyx cavity and stem basin remain untreated. As the recently-harvested fruit leaves the machines, its oily film is similar to that usually found on ripe Arkansas Blacks and other varieties late in the storage season.

On January 16, a party including Federal Supervisor Behnke, State Supervisor of Horticulture Griner, and District Inspectors Harter and Hill, visited the cold-storage plant of the Yakima Fruit Growers' Association at Kennewick and, in company with Mr. H. W. Des Granges, manager of the local unit, examined some of the processed fruit in storage.

The condition in which the stock was found is indicated in the following table, showing the variety, grade, size, pressure test of representative varieties, and the composite opinion of the parties as to the state of maturity, of the samples:

VARIETY	GRADE	SIZE	TEST	MATURITY
Romes	C	113	20	Hard
		80	12	Firm (Crisp)
Jonathans	Fancy	125	11	Ripe (Crisp)
Staymans	C	150	13½	Firm
		150	12½	Firm
Delicious	4th Grade	100	12½	Firm
Winesaps	Extra Fancy	113	16	Hard(slightly starchy)
	Comb. E.F. & Fancy	163	17	Hard

(continued on next page)

The Kennewick district has long been known for the comparatively poor keeping-quality of the fruit grown in its warm climate and low altitude. Therefore, it was interesting to note that all of the varieties examined were in as good or better condition than the average for the same variety now in cold storage at points like Yakima, with several hundred feet higher altitude and proximity to the mountains. A lot of unprocessed ranch-packed Romes placed in storage at the same time as the processed fruit tested 8½ and was judged ripe. No other varieties were available in the unprocessed fruit in storage; so, further comparison could not be made.

Examination of the 4th grade Delicious, as well as stem-punctured apples found in other lots, leads to the opinion that skin breaks, occurring before the fruit is processed, dry up and do not decay as readily as those on the average unprocessed fruit. Punctures made after processing probably receive no protection from the treatment.

The opinion has been held by some that fruit, treated by this process, would develop an undesirable flavor. Particular attention was paid to this and no lots were found with the slightest objectionable flavor or odor. Some state that the fruit develops an acid or fermented taste after being removed from cold storage to warmer temperature for consumption. If this is true, it is the only objection found to the process. It is hoped that the inspection service will be able to make further first-hand observations along this line, before the present storage season is terminated.

No scald was noted even on the C Grade Romes, many of which were devoid of color and would have been good specimens for scald development, if handled under conditions favorable to this.

The two machines used this year are to be rebuilt before next season, to correct a mechanical defect in their operation and to reduce the floor space required for them. At present the two machines, with the auxiliary heating equipment, occupy a 40' x 50' area.

Mr. Des Granges states that the Brogdex Company will make its contract for processing at about 6¢ per packed box. As plain paper is used for the wraps, a saving of from 2¢ to 3¢ on paper cost is made; so that the net increase in cost of using the process is 3¢ or 4¢ over the present method of packing in oiled paper. If the process will consistently preserve the fruit as well as the lots in storage at Kennewick would indicate and if no objectionable conditions develop in the fruit after removal from cold storage, the additional expense will be well justified.

It is reported that the Brogdex Company installed a small machine in the Wenatchee district during the past season and processed a 10,000-box crop there, but all of the fruit in that lot was shipped soon after packing and is not available in the Northwest for observation in storage. The Brogdex Company has been experimenting for several years on citrus and other fruits in Florida and California. The tests in the Northwest this year are believed to be the first commercial tests made on apples.

8c. HOW TO IDENTIFY APPLES FROM KENNEWICK PACKING HOUSE.

In a letter accompanying the above article, Mr. Bailey wrote: "For the benefit of market inspectors, it may be said that lots of fruit from the Kennewick house of the Yakima Fruit Growers' Association, in addition to bearing the Big Y, Snowcrest, or other brand of the Association, will usually show the letters 'KN,' preceding a grower's number, stamped somewhere on the box. The appearance of this mark will help identify lots from this house. An occasional lot, bearing this identification mark, will be ranch-packed and unprocessed."

9c. MARKET NUMBERS:

The following numbers, for use in marking inspected cars, have been assigned to the markets named:-

37 - Newark, N. J. 38 - Wichita, Kans. 39 - Duluth, Minn.

10c. MATERIAL SENT TO INSPECTORS:

With this D.L., each inspector will receive a copy of the 11-page circular on Inspection of Cauliflower.

Inspectors in Philadelphia, Newark, New York, Boston, New Haven, Buffalo and Pittsburgh are being sent copies of the following literature on Massachusetts apples:

The Massachusetts Apple Grading Law.
Revision of Regulations Relating to the Grading and Packing of Apples.
Definitions of Grade Terms Adopted for 1925-26 Season.
Questions and Answers Which May be Helpful to Those Who Pack or Sell Massachusetts Apples.

Copy of the revised list of inspection offices and inspectors also is being sent to each man this week. Please notify us of errors.

11c. REGISTERED BRANDS FOR APPLES IN NORTHWEST.

Writing from Walla Walla, Wash., on January 18, F. E. Bailey sent the following additional information on apples:

I have had several inquiries for information regarding registered apple brands in the Northwest. By that I mean brands which are registered with the State Department of Agriculture and which represent specific grades and do not require the package to be marked or stamped with the usual grade designation, such as Extra Fancy, Fancy or C Grade. I am giving you here a list of the firm names and the brands they have registered with the State Department of Agriculture. The State of Oregon does not have registered brands.

It will interest you to know that it is a policy of the Washington State Department of Agriculture to discourage the use of these brands and the Department will not authorize the use of a series of brands unless the grade specifications of one or more of the series are higher in requirements than the corresponding State grade. The list of registered brands follows:

Yakima County Horticultural Union, Yakima, Washington.
Blue Ribbon - - Extra Fancy
Red Ribbon - - Fancy
White Ribbon - - C Grade

Yakima Fruit Growers Association, Yakima, Washington.
Blue "Y" - - Extra Fancy
Red "Y" - - Fancy
Sno-Kist - - C Grade
(This association uses a White "Y" Brand for pears)

C. T. Haskell, Wenatchee, Washington.
Blue Label of the Haskell Heavypack Brand - - Extra Fancy
Red Label of the Haskell Heavypack Brand - - Fancy

12c. CELERY INSPECTIONS IN FLORIDA.

J. C. Townsend, Jr., is now supervising the celery inspection work at Sanford, Fla., and wrote as follows in a letter of January 22:-

"Inspection on celery opened in Sanford on Tuesday, January 19, when I inspected two cars for Chase & Co. We have had two or three cars every day this week. They have all been U.S. No. 1, but it was necessary to strip the stalks more than usual on account of the pithy outer branches. The shippers seem more than interested in inspection this year, due to the splendid work of Mr. Farnworth and Mr. Warren here last year. The American Fruit Growers have promised us considerable tonnage,- just how many cars I will not know until the next few days. Both Mr. Scott and the field manager see a means of improving their pack and grade by using the service. Other independent shippers are lining up with us; so, the prospects are good for a busy season."

13c. IMPERIAL VALLEY LETTUCE SHIPPERS.

Through C. E. Schultz, in charge of the El Centro field station, we have received a copy of the mimeographed list of lettuce shippers in Imperial Valley this season. This list was issued on January 20 by the Federal-State Shipping-Point Inspection Service. It is really a telephone directory and shows the names and phone numbers of 100 shippers.

14c. The next three items are from California Inspectors' Notes, No. 4:-

14c. F.O.B. AUCTIONS RESUME OPERATIONS.

Sam Preston advises that the National F.O.B. Auction Company is planning to operate in the Imperial Valley lettuce deal this season, probably starting this week. Mr. Schrader, of the Associated Sales Agency, also is expecting to open an office there, to handle lettuce on his f.o.b. selling plan.

15c. BAY MOVEMENTS SLOW.

Letters from H. W. Peterson, in San Francisco, and K. R. Nutting, at Hayward, say that the broccoli is maturing very slowly on account of the continued cold weather. Though no marked damage has been noted, it is feared that considerable freezing-injury will result if the cold continues. Mr. Nutting says shippers do not accept anything but U.S. No. 1 stuff, and, therefore, the quality of the shipments remains very good. San Francisco inspected 26 cars last week. Over half of these cars were cabbage, which is bringing a much better price than the broccoli at present.

16c. ORANGES ARRIVING WITH DECAY.

W. C. Hackleman, Regional Supervisor of Inspection, New York City, writes that, for the past two or three weeks, California Navel orange shipments have shown heavy decay. Two explanations are being offered for this condition, he says. One is the unseasonable weather in some of the growing sections here in California, and the other is that the railroads have used heaters in the cars to prevent freezing in transit, raising the temperatures so much that blue mold rot was promoted.

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

OFFICE NOTES:

George E. Prince, who has been in the Washington office since early January, has now been transferred to Mr. Samson's staff, to assist in some of the special marketing studies which are under way. Washington will be Mr. Prince's headquarters from now on.

W. C. Hackleman and R. C. Butner, Regional Supervisors of the Inspection Service, will come from New York and Chicago respectively, for a conference in Washington next Friday and Saturday, February 5 and 6.

Congratulations are extended another groom and best wishes to another bride this week: Announcement has just been received of the marriage of Georga A. DeHaven, of the Kansas City office, to Miss Helen Kathryn Dale, of that city, on January 14. Their home address will be 3021 Harrison Street, Kansas City, Mo.

Announcement also has been received of the arrival of a son, Robert J., in the home of Ray C. Bish, of the Cleveland office, on January 4.

A. S. Mason expects to start from New York City for Wichita, Kans., at the end of this week, to open the new inspection office in Wichita.

W. L. Evans and H. V. DeMott returned to Washington from New York City the middle of this week. They were in New York in the interest of the Domestic Wool Section.

PLEASE NOTE that J. C. Townsend, Jr., did not locate at Palmetto, Fla., as indicated in the D.L. for January 15, Par. 1c, but that his address is as follows: P. O. Box 495, Sanford, Fla.

F. E. Bailey, of the Spokane office, was scheduled to give a talk on standardization and inspection before the students in the Horticultural Department, State Agricultural College, Pullman, Wash., on Wednesday or Thursday of this week. He will also speak at the Horticultural School, at Walla Walla, about February 4 or 5.

At last report, F. M. Patton, who is critically ill in a local hospital, was "holding his own." He is very weak but has had no fever.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 7, NO. 6
February 5, 1926.
(Contents Confidential)

- FRANCIS M. PATTON -

With real sorrow, announcement is made of the death of Francis M. Patton, Marketing Specialist in charge of the transportation work of our Market News Service. Mr. Patton had not been in good health for some time. Shortly before Christmas he became ill at the office and was obliged to go home. About two weeks ago he underwent a serious operation at George Washington University Hospital, and gradually became weaker until the end came yesterday afternoon. Private funeral services will be held at his home, 3326 - 19th St., N.W., this Saturday at 1 p.m., and interment will be at 2:15 in the Arlington National Cemetery, with military honors.

Mr. Patton was born at Savannah, Georgia, on Feb. 9, 1879. From October, 1898, to October, 1901, he served in the cavalry of the U.S. Army, and was in Cuba during the Spanish-American War. He had a number of years' experience with railroad companies in the South and with the Clyde Steamship Line, his main work being in connection with the freight traffic of these companies. In June, 1917, he was appointed to a position in the Transportation Division of this Bureau, under G. C. White. Upon reorganization of the Bureau forces in January, 1922, Mr. Patton was transferred to the Fruit and Vegetable Division, where he has since rendered an outstanding public service in developing the transportation end of the market news work and in bringing the shipment reports to their present high state of efficiency. His duties took him to the field quite frequently, in order to maintain proper contacts with transportation officials, and in this way Mr. Patton became well known to most of our employees. He had a host of friends in Washington and in the field, all of whom will regret his untimely death.

Mr. Patton is survived by his wife and two children, a son and a daughter, who recently were graduated from High School in Washington. Sympathy is extended to the bereaved family by the entire Fruit and Vegetable Division.

1a. CROP CONDITIONS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA.

About January 20, H. A. Harris, of the Los Angeles office, spent a day in San Diego County and a day in the Imperial Valley, looking over crop conditions and making new contacts for the market news work. He sent the following report on January 30:

"The early potato crop in San Diego County shows a big increase over last year. They expect to have 3,000 acres, of which at least half is early and the remainder intermediate. By early, I mean that it will be harvested from January 15 to April 1. The condition of the crop is poor, with considerable blight in the fields. The growers are spraying but have not succeeded in controlling the disease. The stand is quite irregular, as much of the seed used was ordinary in quality. This early crop is usually consumed in San Diego and Los Angeles and, to a certain extent, in mixed vegetable shipments. However, with such an increased acreage, outlet will have to be secured for some of the crop in carlot shipments.

"Harvesting of celery is in full blast in the Chula Vista District. Shippers estimate their acreage at 650, or 50% more than early estimates and more than twice the acreage of last year. The yield is good, with sizes mostly medium to large, and total production is expected to reach 1,000 cars. Weather conditions have been good so far, with very little disease apparent in the fields.

"It is between crops for peas in San Diego and Imperial counties, as the fall crop has been harvested or killed by frosts and the spring crop is just coming up or being planted. I was unable to secure any difinite idea as to the probable acreage of the spring crop.

"The spring tomato crop in the Imperial Valley is coming along nicely. Many growers are using a new kind of protection for the young plants, both for tomatoes and cantaloupes. Instead of the paper cap, many are using sage brush. It is tied around the hill in the form of an Indian tepee, with an open side to the South, and may or may not have paper also wrapped around the base. It is apparent that this brush protection will be effective for a longer period than the paper cap, on account of its larger size, and it is hoped that this form of protection will keep the soil around the plant warmer than the paper cap. I have some pictures of fields with both types of protection, which I will send you in a few days.

"I did not find anyone in the Coachella Valley to get a line on the onion acreage, but am satisfied that it is not less than 2,000 acres. (Official estimates show 1,600 acres. - Editor) The condition of the crop looks fine, with many fields well advanced. I notice a reduction in acreage of winter vegetables for the local markets in both the Imperial and Coachella valleys.

"I am pleased to note that a Truck Crop Specialist has finally been appointed in this State, as the need has been urgent for some time. I am informed that a movement is under way in this county to have a truck crop man added to the staff of the County Horticultural Commissioner, to supplement the work done by the Federal-State agencies. It is a fact that I can secure truck crop acreages and information on any southern California county more easily than for Los Angeles. This is due to the great diversity of production in this county and the widely scattered areas of production. In other southern California counties, the production of truck crops is more specialized and localized."

2a. WASHINGTON PACKS MOST OF THE CANNED APPLES.

The following report came from Mrs. L. B. Gerry, of the Spokane office, under date of January 28:

Figures have been compiled recently, showing the fruits canned in the State of Washington during the 1924 packing season:

Product	Cases	Product	Cases
Apples	770,958	Pears	425,052
Black Cap Raspberries	1,160	Prunes	27,284
Blackberries	451,475	Rhubarb	20,555
Cherries	121,028	Raspberries	289,577
Gooseberries	14,100	Strawberries	37,081
Huckleberries	280	Jams, jellies and preserves	19,888
Loganberries	208,017	Miscellaneous Fruits	194
Plums	500		

These canned fruits represent a value of $1,661,775. According to the records, Washington now ranks first in the canning of apples.

3a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR JANUARY 30:

Page 69 - Special paragraphs on potatoes in the weekly review.
71 - Heavy Shipments of Idaho Potatoes - by E. D. Maillison
- Winter pear shipments. (filler)
76 - Supplies of Florida string beans. (filler)
80 - Paris Slow to Take American Apples.
- Possibility of Inferior Canary Island Onion Seed.
- Yugoslavian Prune Surplus Reduced.
- German Fruit Imports Decline.

4a. ADDITIONAL FOREIGN MARKET NEWS.

Recent reports issued by the Foreign Marketing Section are F.S.: F-13, "British and German Fresh Fruit Imports Reduced." F.S.: O-14, "Spanish Onion Shipments."

5a. AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK FOR 1926.

On Monday, February 8, there will be released an important statement on the Agricultural Outlook for 1926. Several men in the F. & V. Division have spent considerable time, helping to work up the outlook reports on the leading fruits and vegetables, which will be included with other products in this annual survey.

6a. ANNUAL SUMMARY OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLE MARKETS, 1925.

On pages 22 and 23 of the January Supplement to "Crops and Markets" will be found the annual table, showing jobbing prices by months during 1925 on 14 of the principal fruits and vegetables in six leading markets. This summary should be of considerable value in answering inquiries as to prices.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. CHICAGO POTATO DEALERS PUZZLED.

The following interesting report was received from W. H. Hall, of the Chicago office, under date of February 1:-

"The potato deal has entered that stage where operators usually feel rather free to make predictions regarding the future market, but so many calculations have been upset within the past two months that even the old 'prophets' are noncommittal. They frankly admit that anything is liable to happen to the potato market, and are now willing to acknowledge that, while this season's crop is a very short one, conditions are not analogous to those experienced during the short crop seasons of 1916 and 1919, and therefore it is unsafe to base calculations upon what happened during those two seasons. Unquestionably, the whole potato trade has been very bullish up to a week or two ago, but Chicago operators are becoming less confident as the season wears on, and there is an unmistakable feeling of uncertainty among them. Those who have stored are anxious to reduce their holdings and those who are buying on the open market are unwilling to speculate beyond a week or so.

"The heavy increase in the production of Russets in Idaho has added another problem to the many others experienced this season, as it has practically shut off the southwestern outlet. Furthermore, Idaho Russets have come into direct competition on the Chicago market with northern stock, due to the fact that, for a considerable portion of the season, they have sold at approximately the same price as northern potatoes. In previous seasons, Russets brought from 35¢ to 75¢ per cwt. above other varieties.

"There has been a lot of speculation as to the amount of stock stored in the terminal markets, and this too has had a depressing effect, because it has been generally supposed that these holdings are very large. If Chicago may be taken as a criterion, it seems reasonable to suppose that these holdings have been much overestimated. About January 1, I made a rather thorough survey of holdings here in Chicago and suburbs, and this survey indicated that at that time there were not to exceed 500 cars, whereas operators estimated holdings at 700 to 1,200 cars.

"Unless the market takes on a decided bulge within the next 30 days, it seems pretty safe to predict that offerings will be too heavy to expect any such prices as were realized during the spring of 1917 and 1920. However, happen what may, it is certain that the grower will have made money, and thus far operators have fared pretty well, especially those who stored last fall."

TEN THOUSAND RETAIL FRUIT DEALERS throughout England, Scotland and Ireland, during the past year, became members of the "Retail Fruiters Propaganda Association." Many of these dealers had never advertised before. Plans for the coming year to encourage the use of more fruit include a number of novel ideas, such as the distribution of orange peelers, grapefruit knives, lampshades, calendars, booklets, etc., advocating the use of fruit.

2b. F. AND V. RECEIPTS IN NEW YORK CITY, 1925.

During the year 1925, about 203,560 carloads of 78 fruits and vegetables (including bananas) were received on the New York City market, according to an 8-page mimeographed report just issued by W. H. Stanton. In commenting on the summary, Mr. Stanton wrote as follows:

> "Some rather interesting facts present themselves in looking over the record of receipts in New York City for the calendar year 1925. This is the first year that total receipts have exceeded 200,000 cars, including bananas. A great many of these bananas, of course, which total 34,740 cars, were shipped to other consuming centers. Probably 75% or 80% would be a conservative figure for such reshipments.
>
> "White potatoes, with 23,336 cars, are second on the list, followed by grapes with a total of 17,180 cars. Apples were next in order with 14,013 cars, and oranges were the only other commodity which exceeded 10,000 cars. Orange receipts totaled 11,272. An interesting observation in connection with the unload figures is the fact that more than 3,000 cars of onions were received here from Spain during the year, while 816 cars of Egyptian onions also are listed. Cuba, Mexico, and Chile shipped 72 additional cars. With receipts of onions totaling 8,546 cars, this imported stock accounted for approximately 45% of all arrivals."

The first table in this summary shows the total monthly unloads of each product. The annual totals are compared with annual figures for 1924. For each of the 28 leading products, the monthly receipts are listed by States or countries of origin, and a final table shows the average daily carlot arrivals for each of 17 products, these figures being segregated by months also. Copies of this summary of New York's fruit and vegetable arrivals can be had directly from the New York City office.

3b. IN THE JANUARY SUPPLEMENT TO "CROPS AND MARKETS."

Page 2 - Estimated Aggregate Value of Crops, by States, 1924 and 1925.
- Condition of Specified Truck and Fruit Crops in Florida, Jan. 1.
3-5 - Production, Uses and Grades of Potatoes, 1924 and 1925.
5 - Recent Agricultural Publications.
11 - Percentage Reduction from Full Yield per Acre of Apples from Stated Causes, 1912-1924.
12 - Percentage Reduction from Full Yield per Acre of Potatoes from Stated Causes, 1909-1924.
22 - Prices to Jobbers and Total Shipments of 14 Leading Fruits and Vegetables, 1925, by months.
24 - Carload Shipments of Fruits and Vegetables in December, by States.
25 - Carload Shipments of Citrus Fruits in December, by States.
- Damage to Truck Crops by Late December Freeze.
27 - January 1 Cold Storage Holdings of Apples, Pears, and Frozen and Preserved Fruits.

E. W. STILLWELL,
Specialist in Market News.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. REINSPECTIONS IN ONE-MAN MARKETS.

On the basis of our records the number of cars reversed upon appeal inspection during the last six months shows a marked improvement over the corresponding period of a year ago. However, the entire matter of reversals of shipping-point certificates has received so much publicity recently, that I feel that we must use an increased amount of effort to handle cases of appeal inspections in receiving markets in such a way that there can be no possible criticism of our procedure. To this end, I wish to insist that no appeal inspection shall be undertaken in any one-man market, until the District Supervisor or the Washington office has been advised and directions obtained as to how the inspector should proceed. Information regarding requests for appeal inspections sent in to the Washington office or to the District Supervisor should state definitely the factors on which the appeal is based and reasons given by the applicant for requesting such inspection. The Washington office or the District Supervisor will determine whether the local inspector in the one-man office shall handle the work alone or whether another man shall be sent to assist. Usually, one man will be permitted to make appeal inspections only when the factor in question is one of size, or some factor in which the element of judgment does not enter. Under no circumstances shall a single inspector attempt an appeal inspection until directions have been received from Washington or the District Supervisor. Instructions given in Division Letter for January 22, Par. 5c, regarding the confidential nature of results of preliminary inspections in such cases, should be strictly followed.

2c. TERMS USED IN CALIFORNIA FOR SOLIDITY OF HEADS OF LETTUCE.

At the present time the shipping-point inspection service in California is using the terms "solid," "firm," "fairly firm," "soft," and "loose" in describing the formation of lettuce heads. Heads which are "firm" meet the requiremenrs of U.S. Grade No.1. The term "fairly firm" is used to describe heads which, while well formed, do not have the resistance to pressure required for "firm" but which are better than those which are properly called "soft." The same terms should be used in receiving markets except that both at shipping points and in receiving markets the term "reasonably solid" as used in the requirements for U.S. No.1, may be used instead of "firm," if the applicant so desires, as has been the case at some shipping points.

2⅓c. PEANUT GRADES FAVORED BY GROWERS' ASSOCIATION.

"We think the tentative grades on Virginia-type farmers' stock peanuts prepared by Mr. Rupert, are a far-reaching step in the peanut industry," writes the Peanut Growers' Association of Norfolk, Va., "and will form the basis for definite established grades which, in the course of the next few years, will be in general use. *** If your Department will establish grades on cleaned and shelled peanuts, this organization will adopt them."

The next three items are taken from California Inspectors' Notes No. 5:

3c. CAULIFLOWER JACKET FREEZING SERIOUS.

E/ R. Nutting touches a timely point in his letter in connection with freezing injury on cauliflower jackets, as well as on the head itself. Where the jacket leaves have been frozen to such an extent that the injured parts are not entirely removed in the ordinary trimming before lidding the crates, they are practically certain to develop slimy soft rot in a very short time, which also spreads to the head. Mr. Nutting considers such frozen jacket leaves even more serious, so far as decay is concerned, than the discolorations which appear on the curd itself as the result of freezing. As freezing injury on a head or jacket leaves is easy to detect, there should be no excuse for packing damaged heads. Quality of the broccoli around Hayward is still running good, in spite of some freezing injury there. As the price is not too strong, buyers are requiring U.S. No. 1 stock and, therefore, it is easy to get the packers to keep out the damaged heads. As soon as these older patches are cut, they do not expect to be bothered with freezing injury unless further cold weather occurs.

4c. IMPERIAL VALLEY LETTUCE INSPECTIONS.

In response to the interest of shippers and buyers in the percentage of Imperial Valley lettuce which grades No. 1, C. E. Schultz is publishing the figures daily in his market reports. The percentages recently given run as follows:

	Jan.16	Jan.17	Jan.18	Jan.19	Jan.20	Jan.21	Jan.22	Jan.23 & 24	Jan.25
No.of cars -									
U. S. No.1	4%	22%	7%	12%	28%	14%	12%	4%	8%

The general run of lettuce in the Valley is soft, owing to the warm weather, and lettuce from fields, where nitrate of soda has been applied, is simply out of the question for grade, being of the "oversize balloon type."

It has been decided to use the term "fairly firm" in describing the condition of lettuce which would not meet the "firm" requirement of U.S. No. 1 grade and yet which could not be correctly called soft. Though considerable explanation was necessary to define this term clearly to the trade, especially since "fairly firm" heads were considered within grade under the old lettuce grades, shippers and buyers are now much pleased with this new descriptive term. Statement of the percentage of stock that is of No. 1 quality on certificates in which No. 1 grade is not given is also aiding buyers and shippers in placing the proper value on cars that are out of grade.

Mr. Preston's men are using a new system of certificate writing, which has been found to be much easier to read, and therefore has met with favor from the trade. The following is taken from a recent certificate:-

"QUALITY AND CONDITION - Solidity: Approximately 25% solid heads, 65% firm, 6% fairly firm and 4% soft.
Fresh, crisp and well trimmed.
Wrapper leaves good green color.
Occasional head showing few wrapper leaves slight freezing injury.
2% open or bursted heads.
Balance free from defects.
85% to 90% of stock is of No. 1 quality."

5c. INSPECTIONS AND SHIPMENTS IN CALIFORNIA.

E. J. Powell has just made a table of the following figures: Total California inspections by years:

1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
3,964	11,379	17,297	43,564	35,889	54,367

Inspections and shipments of grapes:

	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Carloads shipped	28,831	33,343	43,947	55,342	57,101	70,980
Cars inspected	823	2,923	6,258	26,445	18,778	36,032
% inspected	3%	9%	14%	48%	33%	51%

6c. PROTECTING THE N. C. POTATO INDUSTRY.

The following article was published in the January 21 number of "Market News," issued by the Division of Markets of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture. It was called to our attention by A. E. Mercker, Federal Supervising Inspector, at Raleigh:-

The growth of the Irish potato has come to be an extensive industry in many sections of eastern North Carolina, particularly around Mt. Olive, Aurora and Elizabeth City. This industry is being menaced by the Tuber Moth, which has gained such headway in Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey and California. Our chief danger is in getting seed which have been infested with larvae of this moth from this infected area. In order to prevent this, Commissioner of Agriculture, W. A. Graham, issued the following regulation (No. 19 of the Plant Pest Regulations):

"No transportation company, agent, or other person shall bring or cause to be brought into North Carolina for delivery at any point within the State any shipment or package containing Irish potatoes intended for seed planting purposes, that has originated in the states known to be infested with the Irish potato insect pest known as the Potato Tuber Moth. The states now regarded as known to be infested from the viewpoint of this regulation are New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, California and Virginia. Provided that movement of the same from such states shall be granted the importer when said shipment or package is accompanied by a valid certificate or permit signed by the State Entomologist or other authorized officer of the state where the shipment originated, stating that the said shipment or package of Irish potatoes was grown in a section or territory of the state which is known not to be infested with the Potato Tuber Moth."

In order to properly carry out this ruling and also be fair to the commission merchants of Norfolk who are supplying eastern Carolina producers with seed, it has been ruled that potatoes stored in transit in Norfolk, originating and grown outside of known Tuber Moth territory (as for example, Maine and Prince Edward Island) will be regarded as in transit (therefore not originating in Virginia) provided seed certification tag issued by agricultural authorities (Maine and Canada) is attached to each sack when forwarded to a dealer or grower in this state. Where the potatoes were not of certified stock, it will be necessary to attach shipping permit issued by the State Entomologist of the State Department of Agriculture to each shipment, certifying that the potatoes were grown outside of Tuber Moth infested territory. The shipping permits will be granted by the State Entomologist upon application with proper affidavits from the dealers.

7c. HANDLING LOS ANGELES COUNTY CAULIFLOWER.

Carbon copy of a letter written by F. S. Kinsey to F. E. Bailey on January 28 contains the following interesting information:-

"I have been with one of the California-Federal inspectors out into the El Monte section, 12 to 15 miles from the office, to see him inspect a car of cauliflower. He also took me around to a few of the patches where they were packing. This country needs rain badly; the dry weather has had a bad effect on the flower, along with some more crops. It has not been flower weather this winter, anyway,- so they say. They are having to dull very heavily to get U. S. No. 1. The worst place we saw was where they had packed out 16 crates and culled out a pile perhaps 12x16 feet across and 4 feet high at the peak. They get $27.50. a ton for the culls for pickling.

"Most of the flower is packed on the ranches in this section, but by a crew working for the shipper. Thus, they have no financial interest in the crop they are packing, and the only reason for a poor pack is carelessness. The grower, who is more than likely a Chinaman or a Japanese, cuts and delivers the flower to the packing crew and that is his only expense. The growers use a two-whelled cart for hauling from the field; they empty the cart by dumping. The packers sort by stooping over, in some cases throwing the good heads in a bin from which they pack. The shipper hauls to the car. The cost to the shipper from the field to the car usually is figured at thirty-five cents."

8c. TROUBLE WITH APPLE SHIPMENTS IN CALIFORNIA.

H. D. Greene, of the Sacramento office, sent the following item on January 28:-

"During the last week, Ralph Hooper and C. H. Beasley, of the California Standardization Service, together with the County Horticultural Inspectors of Los Angeles, have held up several carloads of apples there because they were not stamped with grade designations, as required in the Apple Act. A number of lots in cold storage also have been tied up for this reason, the owners being required to stamp them properly before they are allowed to remove them from storage. Some rejections also were made on account of decay, worm injury, internal browning, breakdown and deceptive pack. These apples were from Idaho and California points. Several lots of Oregon apples have been condemned in the northern part of California, for poor condition."

9c. SEND TEST SPECIMENS DIRECT TO THIS OFFICE:

Several inspectors have been sending test specimens direct to various pathologists in the Bureau of Plant Industry. All specimens should pass through this office, both in order that we may have a knowledge of the character of the disease about which the inspector is in doubt and that they may be sent to the proper parties. There has been considerable confusion and delay in a number of instances because specimens were sent direct to pathologists who are not familiar with the class of diseases in question, and in some instances the specimens have been sent to a wrong division of Plant Industry. It will simplify and expedite sending replies to have these all pass through our own office. Please give this your careful attention in the future.

10c. WENATCHEE-OKANOGAN INSPECTIONS FOR SIX MONTHS.

The following letter was received from C. H. Behnke, Supervising Inspector at Wenatchee, under date of January 25:

"I am enclosing a tabulation of inspections that have been made in the Wenatchee-Okanogan district of Washington during the period July 1 to December 31 of the past three years,- 1923, 1924 and 1925. The Wenatchee-Okanogan district is known as the North Central Washington district and comprises the counties of Chelan, Okanogan, Grant and Douglas.

"The comparison of total inspections shows almost 100% increase over last year. Every shipper in the district has used the service to some extent this year and, with the exception of four or five, these shippers have had practically everyone of their cars certified.

"Comparison of the number of inspections with the figures of the Wenatchee Valley Traffic Association, showing total number of cars shipped, indicates that 72% of the apples have been certified, 23% of the pears, 23% of the apricots, and 50% of the prunes and plums.

"Platform inspection by the State Department of Agriculture was furnished to practically all of the shippers in the district and this service at 90¢ per hour, plus the $5.00 fee for certification when the cars were loaded out, made an average cost of $7.06 per car, or less than one cent a box, for Federal-State inspection costs."

NUMBER OF CARS CERTIFIED IN WENATCHEE-OKANOGAN DISTRICT

	1923	1924	1925
July	37	2	19
August	160	87	159
September	512	900	2101
October	2718	1549	4263
November	1381	1693	1840
December	496	531	770
Total	5304	4762	9152

INSPECTIONS BY COMMODITIES, JULY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1925:

	Apples	Pears	Apricots	Prunes	Peaches	Mixed	Total
July	4	0	14	0	0	1	19
August	141	11	0	4	1	2	159
Sept.	2033	62	0	4	1	1	2101
Oct.	4217	46	0	0	0	0	4263
Nov.	1831	9	0	0	0	0	1840
Dec.	769	1	0	0	0	0	770
Total	8995	129	14	18	2	4	9152

In addition 4 cars of sweet cherries were certified during June.

SOME ONE said: "I didn't have time to read last week's Division Letter."
SOME ONE does not know all the good things he missed.
Every article in every D. L. is important.

11c. RESEW SACKS WHICH HAVE BEEN OPENED OR CUT.

On account of the numerous complaints received from shippers to the effect that serious losses have been sustained because of the practice of cutting sacks, it is believed necessary to insist that all sacks which have been either opened on the ends or cut on the sides for examination shall be resewed. It will require but little extra time for the inspector to do this and it will relieve the service from serious criticism.

It is equally important for the inspector to dispose of cut samples which are sometimes left in evidence and attract the attention of prospective buyers to defects which may not be numerous enough to be of importance. Such cut specimens should be thrown well away from the car or dropped out of sight between the stacks of sacks. The same applies to other products beside potatoes.

It is particularly important for the inspector to record on his notes and mention in the certificate cut sacks and specimens which he may find scattered about the car. It is not always possible for the inspector to state the exact number of cut sacks or opened packages because of the fact that some may be covered up in the lower parts of the load. The statement made on the certificate, therefore, should be somewhat as follows: "Six cut sacks noted with contents scattered over the surface of the load." Failure to record such conditions leaves the inspector without defense, if he is charged with being responsible for the bad condition of the car when he leaves it.

In general, sacks should be cut only when it is impossible to pull them out of the lower layer of the load for examination. Special conditions, such as freezing injury, may justify cutting the sides of sacks in the upper layers of the load. Sacks so cut should be resewed and turned over so that the appearance of the load will not be affected.

Convenient sack needles will be sent to all offices by the District Supervisors in New York and Chicago. Sack twine can be purchased locally and a small quantity carried in the tool case.

12c. SHIPPING-POINT SUPERVISORS TEMPORARILY IN THE FIELD.

In the new address list of inspection offices and inspectors, distributed last week, it will be observed that the names of six inspectors were not included. These six men are located temporarily in the field, supervising shipping-point deals, as follows:

G. R. Warren, Caribou, Maine.
O. N. Harsha, 415 Triangle Bldg., Rochester, N.Y.
O. G. Strauss, P. O. Box 188, Orlando, Fla.
J. C. Townsend, Jr., P. O. Box 495, Sanford, Fla.
C. D. Shirley, Harlingen, Texas.
F. S. Kinsey, at present in Los Angeles office but soon to go to Phoenix, Arizona.

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

(SEE NEXT PAGE)

OFFICE NOTES:

M. L. Benn, after six years' service with the Inspection Project, resigned on January 31, to accept a position with the A. & P. Tea Company. Mr. Benn was appointed to the service in November, 1919, and after a brief period of training in New York City was assigned to the Pittsburgh staff until March, 1922, when he was transferred to New York again. Mr. Benn has since been a member of the New York staff, except for the period from April to September, 1923, - the five months that he was out of the service. It is understood that he will buy potatoes and other vegetables for the A. & P. Tea Company, with his headquarters in Pittsburgh.

R. W. Davis, of Mr. Spilman's section in Washington, is wearing a smile this week. A son, Roger Todd, arrived on Tuesday morning.

R. L. Ringer, of the Portland office, has been authorized to go to Roseburg, Oregon, for the purpose of conferring with broccoli growers and shippers and arranging for f.o.b. reports on these shipments. He will include this information in his daily market reports.

H. A. Spilman expects to give a talk on "Different Types of Fruit Packages" before a class of advanced fruit growers, at Maryland Agricultural College, College Park, Md., next Friday, February 12.

Friends of P. D. Rupert, recently resigned, will be interested to know that his address in Rochester, N.Y., is 579 University Ave.,- Apt. 9.

The entire force of 22 clerks in Mr. Patton's section expects to attend his funeral services tomorrow afternoon. A considerable number of the technical staff in Washington also will go to the funeral. Mr. Patton will be greatly missed in the Washington offices.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 7, NO. 7
February 12, 1926.
(Contents Confidential)

1a. J. G. CROSS TO HANDLE F. AND V. TRANSPORTATION CONTACTS.

In order to maintain proper contacts with transportation officials throughout the country, particularly in connection with the shipment reports on fruits and vegetables, J. G. Cross will be transferred from the Division of Statistical and Historical Research to the Market News Service appropriation, effective February 16.

Mr. Cross was in the original Transportation Division of this Bureau, having been appointed to the service in September, 1918. When the work was reorganized a few years ago, he was assigned to Dr. Stine's section and has since been handling all transportation work of the Bureau except that on fruits and vegetables. The following paragraph is quoted from the official memorandum regarding Mr. Cross' new duties: -

"Mr. Cross will act as the Bureau's representative in handling all contact work of the Bureau with the railroads, in so far as such contacts relate to the market news services. He will report directly to Mr. Kitchen on all matters which involve interdivisional relations, but will be located in the Fruit and Vegetable Division, so as to be accessible to the section handling the reports of carriers."

It is understood that, in connection with the work on fruits and vegetables, Mr. Cross will continue to perform services in behalf of the Livestock and Meats Division and the Dairy and Poultry Products Division.

2a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR FEBRUARY 6:

Page 85 - Special paragraphs on cabbage in the weekly review.
86 - Federal-State inspections in Maine. (filler)
87 - Unusual Features of Michigan Potato Deal, - by R. H. Shoemaker.
93 - Shipments of California cauliflower. (filler)
96 - China Has Liberal Peanut Supplies.
- The German Tariff on Apples.
- British Apple Market Quiet.

3a. DEMAND FOR GRAPEFRUIT IN ENGLAND.

Special report F.S.:CF-24, entitled "Growing Demand for American Grapefruit in England," was issued on February 2 by the Foreign Marketing Section. It is well illustrated by a chart, showing the annual increase of imports since 1920.

4a. REVISED LIST OF MANUFACTURERS AND JOBBERS OF CONTAINERS.

In the D. L. for May 22, 1925, Par. 3a, appeared a description of the contents of the mimeographed List of Manufacturers and Jobbers of Fruit and Vegetable Containers, as issued by Mr. Spilman's section at that time. This 15-page list has now been brought up to date and has just been re-issued in revised form. Copies can be had on request.

(Page 83).

5a. "FIFTY FARM FLASHES."

In connection with the Department's new radio service, "Fifty Farm Flashes," the Fruit and Vegetable Division is required to supply every week a dozen questions and replies of some general interest. Everyone who dictates letters, whether in Washington or outside of Washington, is asked to keep this matter in mind, and should see that a carbon copy of letters of special interest is sent in, for the use of Mr. Fiske (Room 516, Bieber Bldg.), who writes up the radio questions and answers for this Division.

6a. FLORIDA CITRUS MARKET SITUATION.

Writing from Orlando on February 4, R. H. Lamb sent the following information on the citrus situation in Florida:-

"Last evening the Fruitman's Club held its usual semi-monthly meeting, with several members of the trade from northern cities present. Therefore, the larger part of the meeting was devoted to addresses by these northern men.

"The Club, by resolution, recommended that orange shipments for the week ending February 13 not exceed 850 cars, which represents a reduction of 150 cars from the schedule at the beginning of the new year. It was thought that a movement of 65 cars daily, based on a seven-day week, would amply take care of the grapefruit shipments and leave that market in a healthy condition.

"The renewal of buying from smaller towns and cities in the North, and particularly in the Southern States, which was expected to takeplace the latter part of January or the first of February, has not yet started. This, of course, has not had much bearing on the grapefruit situation, as Florida stock at this season of the year meets with little competition in the consuming centers. The grapefruit market for the past two weeks has remained steady, with a tendency to be firm at $3.00 for 64's and smaller, and an occasional $3.25 sale reported. The larger sizes, particularly 36's, which are now running coarse, are discounted 25¢ to 50¢.

"On the other hand, the orange market is still weak, with auction sales being the rule andvery little f.o.b. buying. The few f.o.b. usual term sales made during this period have not averaged much over $2.50. However, it is believed that the light shipments of January 30 and 31, February 1 and 2 (because of heavy rains) will cause the auction markets to advance the first of the week and thereby add strength to the f.o.b. market."

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. WIDE DISTRIBUTION OF OUTLOOK REPORT DESIRED.

Mimeographed copies of the complete Agricultural Outlook report were mailed to all market and field stations yesterday. The first 11 pages of this report deal with general subjects, such as domestic and foreign demand, farm labor, etc. The report on potatoes will be found on page 26, peanuts on page 28, and other fruits and vegetables on pages 44 to 51 inclusive. The remainder of the report is devoted to other products.

It is desired that the fruit and vegetable outlook reports be given wide distribution. From market stations, the general mailing list should be sent copies of the fruit and vegetable reports, or such portions as are most likely to be of interest. In addition, market stations, in which are stored field station plates, should distribute the reports to such lists, whenever applicable. For instance, St. Louis should send the watermelon report to the Kennett list, Philadelphia the potato report to the Eastern Shore list, San Francisco the cantaloupe report to the Turlock list, etc.

Field stations will use such of the reports as they think will be of interest in the territory which they serve.

The exact manner of handling the distribution of these outlook reports must be left to the discretion of the man in charge of each office, but in general we desire to give them wide distribution and publicity. In this particular case, it will be well to be liberal rather than conservative in deciding upon how to handle them. It is understood, of course, that portions of the report other than those on fruits and vegetables may be used, if desired.

2b. WESTERN NEW YORK POTATO SITUATION.

In writing to a potato dealer in the Middle West on January 28, Mr. Prugh, of the Rochester office, included the following information:

"Western New York shipped 14,460 cars of potatoes last season. I estimate not over 40% of that movement this season, or 5,784 cars. About 2,585 cars have been moved to Jan. 23. In contrast to this, Long Island had a better crop than last season and has shipped 5,375 cars, against a total of 5,667 last season. Long Island may move 800 or 1,000 after Jan. 23. The market moves within a narrow range. Apparently, whenever it advances 25¢, shipments increase and the advance is lost. Farmers feel bullish here and are selling only a few at the offered price of $2.25 per bushel. Shipments are only about 10 a day. It is apparent that, when prices are forced too high, the consumer turns to substitutes, such as macaroni. I believe the highest carlot f.o.b. price here this season has been $6.85 per 150-pound sack, and I do not expect the future price to exceed that by more than 50¢. The homegrown crop near Cleveland was good this year and that condition has kept New York State stock out of that market."

3b. THE EGYPTIAN ONION SITUATION.

F.S.:O-16, entitled "The Egyptian Onion Situation," is a special mimeographed report, just issued by the Foreign Marketing Section. It includes a very good description of the growing, harvesting and marketing of onions in Egypt, together with a statement as to exports the last three seasons.

4b. CODE CHANGES ON "D" AND "GOB" PAGES OF THE CODE:

The following wire was sent today (February 12) over the circuits:

"Effective tomorrow, add to 'GOB' page of code GOBUQ, repeat GOBUQ, meaning 'in mixed cars, f.o.b. usual terms' . . . This to take care of South Texas beets and carrots, shipped in mixed cars."

Those who did not receive this addition over the leased wire should make the change in their code books at once.

On "D" (Shipments and Receipts) page of code, effective February 19, change

DOT Western, to read
DOT Lower Rio Grande Valley points.

On "GOB" page, change meaning of GOBUJ to "in mixed cars, f.o.b. cash track," effective Feb. 15.

5b. PROGRESS OF WORK AT BROWNSVILLE OFFICE.

In a letter of February 7, commenting on the market reporting work at the Brownsville, Texas, field station, J. D. Evers wrote in part:

"The schedule of the day is as follows: At about 10 o'clock, the carlot shipments come to me by Western Union from Mr. Hunter. Later on, I believe that this information can be transmitted by radio, as the markets are, later in the day. At noon each day, I put out a report containing the f.o.b. prices at important shipping points, carlot shipments, and destinations. This report is broadcasted by Mr. Phillips over KWWG, and copies also are furnished to the newspaper and the local shippers. At 1:30 p.m., the market information and passings at St. Louis and Kansas City start coming in over the radio at Ft. Brown. The newspaper is very anxious to publish as much of the information as possible; so, I have the messenger boy call at the Fort promptly at 1:45 p.m. and bring me what has come in, to that time. In this way, I am able to publish almost three-fourths of the daily report in the local newspaper, which is released at 3.00 p.m. and distributed throughout the Valley the same afternoon by bus. At 6 p.m. Mr. Phillips broadcasts the entire report over KWWG. The mail service is only fair, none of the reports being delivered to the growers until the following morning. Nevertheless, this is the best point for the field station, so far as rendering service is concerned, for practically every person in the Valley owns a radio set. My personal opinion is that, at very few field stations, is the market information furnished so quickly to the growers. Results secured over the radio are very gratifying. Many requestsfor my report come from small towns in Louisiana and Alabama, where probably the only means of knowing that there is a market news station established at Brownsville is by the radio. Mr. Wm. McDavitt, who is considered the most important shipper of the Valley, is highly pleased with the service. On the bottom of all his business letters he places the following sentence: 'Tune in on KWWG at noon and 6 p.m., central time, and get the market reports.'

"About two or three weeks prior to my arrival, the Valley suffered a severe freeze. Practically all the citrus, especially the limes and lemons, met with disaster. From Mercedes to Mission, the branches laden down with ice, were broken off close to the trunk. The younger trees, however, escaped serious injury."

6b. SUGGESTIONS FOR WRITING RADIO TALKS:

Because so many of our men now prepare periodical talks for radio broadcasting, the following suggestions doubtless will be welcomed at this time. They were written by G. B. Fiske:

HINTS FOR RADIO WRITERS

Among the items that tend to make radio talking easy for speakers and listeners are these:-

Style: Use short words, short sentences, and short paragraphs, handled in a talky style but not sloppy nor wordy. Use plain language, not the clever technical expressions we enjoy using, and cut out trade terms, even at some cost of precision as it may seem to us.

Matter: Pick out the features of main interest at the time and talk about them mostly, making a simple picture of the situation, easy to grasp at a hearing. Put in as many as you can of little incidents, supposed questions, and scraps of conversation.

Revision: Imagine yourself at the "mike," trying to say it, and often you will write it better for the purpose. Listen-in and think, meanwhile, how it might have been livened up or smoothed down or made plain to anybody. During the week jot down items you think can be worked into the next talk and have them in mind more or less, when meeting dealers and farmers.

7b. CINCINNATI RADIO REPORTS WELL RECEIVED.

The radio market reports, prepared by the Cincinnati office and broadcast by Station WLW, are meeting with much favor in that territory, judging from the numerous commendations recently received by J. G. Scott, local reporter. Excerpts from more than 30 representative letters of commendation have been sent us by Mr. Scott. He states that, so far, he has received only one serious complaint against market reports by radio.

8b. FIFTEEN WORDS AT THE USUAL COST OF TEN.

C. J. Hansen, of the San Francisco office, is now trying the relaying of messages to our Los Angeles and Portland offices by Federal Telegraph, a new radio telegraphic service, with headquarters in San Francisco and reaching the entire Pacific Coast. The slogan of this company is: "Better Service at Lower Rates; 15 Words for the Usual Price of 10." The minimum charge for day messages is 25¢, for night letters 20¢ and for day letters 45¢. Mr. Hansen is testing the service experimentally, realizing that much depends on the adequacy of the call-box system and the delivery service.

9b. REVISED ESTIMATE FOR FLORIDA CITRUS CROP.

Under date of February 9, the Division of Crop and Livestock Estimates issued a mimeographed sheet, entitled "Revised Citrus Estimate." It shows commercial production in Florida of 8,500,000 boxes of oranges and 5,500,000 boxes of grapefruit, including the fruit already shipped. Other statistics also are given in this report.

E. W. STILLWELL,

Specialist in Market News.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. DON'T FORGET THE F.P.I.--14's.

Some complaints have been received recently from shippers, who claim that they have not received postcard notices of inspections of their cars, made at the request of receiver or carrier. Read paragraphs 57 and 58, Part I of the Handbook.

"Financially interested parties" are defined in Regulation 5, Section 1, of the Rules and Regulations of the Secretary, governing our service. Remember that two postcard notices should be sent with each receiving-point inspection certificate. If the receiver is the applicant, the notices go to shipper and carrier. If the shipper is the applicant, the cards go to receiver and carrier. If the carrier requests inspection, the cards go to shipper and receiver.

2c. SOME CONCERN OVER MILD WEATHER IN NORTHWEST.

The following paragraphs are quoted from a letter of February 4, written by F. E. Bailey, Supervising Inspector at Spokane:-

"You may be interested in knowing that, according to my own observation, made largely in Spokane and northeastern Washington, and according to statements received from inspectors as far south and west as Medford, Oregon, the Pacific Northwest has had an abnormally mild winter, up to the present time. The majority of the people in this part of the country, however, are not bragging on our winter climate. They feel that, having so much summer mixed in with the winter, may result in a touch of winter along with our June, July and August weather. Most of us would prefer a more normal winter, with the thermometer flirting with zero a few days, at least.

"While fruit growers have been concerned over the possibility of the buds swelling too rapidly, it is not believed that any damage has yet been done in this way. Much depends upon the kind of a spring we have. If the mild weather continues through February and March, and is followed by some cold weather in late March or April, the fruit crop may suffer severely. Until recently, the precipitation in many parts of the Northwest was below normal, but the snow and rain which we have had lately is rapidly bringing this to normal."

The next four items were taken from Shipping-Point Inspection Letter No. 18, issued by F. E. Bailey on January 30 for Washington and Oregon men:

3c. REPORT OF SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTIONS.

The table below, which is copied from a report recently released by the Fruit and Vegetable Division, shows the number of shipping-point inspections made in the United States since the inauguration of the service July 1, 1922, together with the number of appeal inspections made and the number of these in which the original inspection was sustained or reversed:

	July 1, 1922 to June 30, 1923	July 1, 1923 to June 30, 1924	July 1, 1924 to June 30, 1925	July 1, 1925 to Jan. 1, 1926
Inspections	72,466	130,959	131,087	108,286
Appeal Inspections	61	239	258	140
Original Sustained	27	129	113	60
Original Reversed	34	110	145	80

4c. YAKIMA AND KITTITAS FRUIT TREE CENSUS COMPLETED.

W. L. Close, District Inspector for Yakima and Kittitas counties, has recently issued a mimeographed report of the completed fruit tree census for those two counties. The census covers apples, pears, peaches, apricots, plums and prunes, cherries and grapes. Interested persons may obtain copies of the report from Mr. Close at Yakima. The report also shows the 1918 census figures and thus indicates the increase or decrease in the different varieties during the seven-year period.

5c. SOME INTERESTING STATISTICS ON APPLES.

Wendell P. Brown, District Horticultural Inspector at Walla Walla, has had some of the larger growers and shippers in Walla Walla and Columbia counties report to him the number of boxes of each grade and variety, which their crops packed out for the years 1920 to 1924 inclusive. These figures, which represent about 75% of the commercial production in the two counties during that period, have been compiled in a table, grouped by varieties. The per cent of Extra Fancy, Fancy and C Grade packed during the five-year period has also been computed for 12 varieties. It is interesting to note that the Grimes Golden stands at the head of the list with 63.9% Extra Fancy, while the Winter Banana is at the foot with 6.1% Extra Fancy. The average of all varieties represented is 22.7% Extra Fancy, 41.7% Fancy, and 38.6% C Grade.

6c. BRIEF NOTES FROM THE NORTHWEST:

During the period from July 1 to December 31 last year, 3,384 shipping-point certificates were issued in cooperation with the Oregon State Board of Horticulture.

E. A. Pettey, inspector at Roseburg, Oregon, advises that broccoli shipments from the Umpqua Valley will start the latter part of February and that, unless unfavorable weather occurs between now and the beginning of the harvest, there will be a bumper crop of possibly 1,000 cars. One optimistic shipper in the district estimates 1,500 cars.

Fletcher T. Fish, inspector in charge at Medford, Oregon, wrote as follows under date of January 24:

"The growers in the Rogue River district are beginning to worry over the advance of the fruit buds which, from reports, are showing signs of unusually early development. As in Washington, we have had mild weather, with only a few freezes, and consequently the blooming period will doubtless come earlier than the normal season. I remember one year when trees bloomed in the middle of March and there is a possibility of this being repeated, should February be a warm month, as is often the case in this locality.

"Our rainfall is only an inch below normal, but the snow pack in the mountains is very light and threatens a shortage of irrigation water, as the reservoirs are quite low. Late snows do not stay on, and the amount in the mountains at present is only about a fourth of the usual depth.

"The crop prospects as to quantity are good. There is a fine set of buds, particularly on the fall pears, but it is not safe to count the fruit until the pollination, frost and dropping periods are past."

The following item was released to the press on February 5 by the California Inspection Service:

7c. FINES IMPOSED TO PROTECT CALIFORNIA F. and V. INDUSTRY.

California's $405,193,000 fruit and vegetable industry is advancing in reputation for quality as well as in immense production, under the regulations of the Fruit and Vegetable Standardization Act of 1925. Through the Bureau of Standardization, California Department of Agriculture, and the Horticultural Commissioners in the various counties, many arrests have been made for violating the provisions of this act by practices which were deceptive or detrimental to the good reputation of the industry. A great deal of educational work is being done among the trade, but, when flagrant violations are committed, the law is resorted to.

In Los Angeles County, through R. L. Hooper, California Department of Agriculture, together with the County Horticultural Commissioner's office, more than 18 dealers have been convicted and fined from $10 to $300 during the last three months, besides many cases where they have compelled lots of fruit and produce to be reconditioned or properly marked and packed.

The list includes a packing-house manager and two peddlers, convicted for selling frozen oranges and two others for selling badly split cull oranges. Their fines ranged from $15 to $100. A Japanese was fined $25 for selling tomatoes packed in a deceptive manner, and another for not marking his boxes properly. Many lots were also caused to be reconditioned and remarked to comply with the law. Several dealers were fined $25 each for selling strawberries, defectively packed.

One carload of celery had to be unloaded in order to mark it properly, while another shipper was fined $300 (suspended sentence) for repeatedly mis-marking his crates. Only one conviction has been made on lettuce, one shipper being fined $50 for packing a slack pack. Most of the lettuce shipped, and also that received from other points, has been very well packed and properly marked.

Six court cases resulted in fines of $50 to $200 for the selling of walnuts which contained more than the 20% of defective nuts allowed by law, and another party was fined for mislabeling sacks. Besides these cases, many rejections were made and the walnuts either reconditioned or sent to by-products factories.

8c. WASHINGTON STATE BULLETINS AVAILABLE.

F. E. Bailey, of the Spokane office, advises that the Washington Agricultural Experiment Station, at Pullman, doubtless will be pleased to furnish any inspector, or other interested party, with copies of the following recent publications, issued by that station:

Bulletin No. 191, "The Rhizoctonia Disease of Potatoes" - a technical paper of considerable length.

Bulletin No. 193, "Studies in Apple Storage."

Bulletin No. 194, "Cooperation in Marketing Washington Farm Products," a 108-page bulletin covering every market organization for farm products, functioning in the State today.

9c. BADGER STATE BRAND CERTIFIED SEED POTATOES.

The following important letter was received from M. A. Russell, of the Chicago office, under date of February 4:

"I am mailing to you, under separate cover, a few copies of the Wisconsin potato grades, which include the specifications for Badger State Brand Certified Seed. In view of the fact that this is the season of the year during which Wisconsin seed potatoes are moving to the southern and eastern States, I have taken the liberty of mailing a copy of these grades direct to each of the following offices:

Atlanta, Ga.	Houston, Texas.	New York City, N. Y.
Cincinnati, Ohio.	Memphis, Tenn.	St. Louis, Mo.
Denver, Colo.	New Orleans, La.	Wichita, Kans.
Fort Worth, Tex.		

"Although the specifications for Badger State Brand Certified Seed (aside from requiring Wisconsin Experiment Station examination) are roughly equivalent to U. S. Grade No. 1, there are a few differences. Chief of these are: (1) 'One variety' instead of 'similar varietal characteristics' (2) 'Well shaped' instead of 'not badly misshapen', (3) Triumphs and Cobblers may be 1-1/2 inches minimum diameter, instead of 1-7/8 inches. Another difference is that the seed grade limits the amount of soft rot to one per cent, instead of two per cent, but this difference is not likely to be involved in our market inspections.

"It is very possible that we will have appeal inspections on some of these seed potatoes, and it seems to me (if this is the case) that it may be preferable to make appeal inspection on exactly the same basis as the inspection at shipping point, 'Badger State Brand Certified Seed' rather than on U. S. No. 1. Our Wisconsin inspectors make the following type of grade statement on these seed potatoes: 'Red tags show that stock has passed Wisconsin Experiment Station inspections for Badger State Brand Certified Seed. Potatoes meet all remaining requirements of this grade.'

"It occurs to me that, in case of market inspections on these potatoes, the grade statement should be made along similar lines, even though the shipping-point inspection be reversed. If we simply state that a shipment fails to meet requirements for Badger State Brand Certified Seed, the receiver may contend that his certificate proves that the shipment is not certified seed. While a shipment may not meet the physical requirements for this grade, we are certainly not in position to state that it has not passed the Experiment Station inspections and been certified as to freedom from inheritable disease, trueness to variety type, etc.

"In this connection it should be borne in mind that, according to the rules of the Wisconsin Department of Markets, all Wisconsin certified seed potatoes must be inspected and passed by the joint Federal-State shipping-point inspectors before they leave the State."

The following statement should be used, if it is found necessary to reverse shipping-point certification on these potatoes:

"Red tags show that stock has passed Wisconsin Experiment Station inspections for Badger State Certified Seed. This lot was also inspected at shipping-point and certified on Federal-State certificate No.-------- as meeting remaining requirements of this grade, which certificate is reversed on account of defects mentioned above."

10c. AMENDMENT TO PARAGRAPH 113, PART I, INSPECTOR'S HANDBOOK:

Paragraph 113 has been amended to read as follows:

Sending Copies of Appeal Inspections to Federal Men at Shipping Points.

Whenever an appeal inspection certificate is issued, regardless of whether the shipping-point certificate is sustained or reversed, and when a certificate is issued on a small lot as provided in paragraph 92, a wire should be sent to the Federal representative who is in charge of the work at the point where the certificate was issued. This will enable him to take up the matter with the inspector who issued the certificate and to take whatever steps seem advisable to prevent recurrence of errors, if such have been made. Copies of such certificates should also be mailed at once to the Federal representative at shipping point. If any peculiar condition is noted in connection with second inspections for condition only, the Federal shipping-point representative should be notified by letter. Certain State shipping-point representatives also request copies of appeal inspection certificates. Watch the Division Letter for such requests.

It will be noted that this amendment provides for sending information to shipping points on inspections covering parts of lots which were shipping-point inspected, even though there is no reversal of shipping-point certificate.

11c. SOUTHEASTERN PEANUT ASSOCIATION RULES.

Each inspector has been sent during the week a copy of the 16-page booklet of Rules of the Southeastern Peanut Association, 1925. This organization has headquarters at Atlanta, Ga., and the booklet contains the grading rules for peanuts.

12c. DULUTH, MINN., OFFICE OPENING MONDAY.

P. T. Baden has gone from Chicago to open an inspection office at Room 4, Sherwood Bldg., Duluth, Minn., on Monday, February 15. This temporary station probably will be in operation about two months, and is principally for the inspection of Northwestern boxed apples, coming out of cold-storage plants at Duluth. En route to Duluth, Mr. Baden stopped at the Minneapolis office, to confer with inspectors there.

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

(Postscript) -

13c. GRADES FOR GLOBE ARTICHOKES.

With this D.L., each inspector will receive a copy of the U.S. Standards for Globe Artichokes, 1926, which may be used in the shipping sections of California this season.

F.G.R.

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Sherman went to New York City last night, and is conferring today with local inspectors and with State officials, regarding inspection work. He expects to be back at his desk on Saturday.

While F. S. Kinsey remains temporarily in the Los Angeles office, H. A. Harris is spending part of his time on a summary of the California citrus season and a summary of the 1925 Coachella Valley onion deal. He may also make short trips to producing sections of Kern County and to the Guadalupe district.

Since the shipping season for Utah products is practically finished, the market reports issued by Walter Kingsbury, at Salt Lake City, have been reduced to a thrice-weekly basis until homegrown stuff begins to arrive in the spring.

Word has been received from Minneapolis that R. M. Furgeson is ill and has been ordered to bed by his physician.

K. R. Nutting, California shipping-point inspector located at Hayward, Calif., is being congratulated on the arrival of a daughter in his home on January 31.

A telephone has now been installed in the new office at Room 752, Randolph Bldg., Memphis, Tenn., and the phone number is 6-8610. This should be inserted in the recently-revised list of inspection offices.

On the last page of the January 15 list of inspection offices, the address for C. R. Newton, under Louisiana, should be changed to P. O. Box 608, Baton Rouge. The University Station branch post-office has been discontinued.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, will be observed as a holiday in all offices. This makes a two-day holiday, from Saturday until Tuesday. The Tuesday reports by market stations should include all arrivals since Saturday and should be preceded by CAPUZ.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 7, NO. 8.
February 19, 1926.
(Contents Confidential)

1a. SPECIAL NOTICE TO TRANSPORTATION OFFICIALS.

Under date of February 15, the following multigraphed letter was sent to all transportation officials, cooperating in reporting shipments of fruits and vegetables. Possibly 1,500 copies of the letter have been mailed:

Dear Sir:

It is with regret that I advise you of the death of Mr. Frank M. Patton on February 4, following illness which kept him from the office since just before Christmas. The contacts maintained by him with you and other transportation officials with reference to reports on the movement of fruits and vegetables and related subjects will be maintained in the future by Mr. James G. Cross, Specialist in Transportation, who has been with the Bureau for several years.

I am sure you will extend to Mr. Cross the same courtesies and cooperation which you have always given to representatives of this Bureau.

Very truly yours,
THOMAS P. COOPER,
Chief of Bureau.

2a. MANY PRODUCTS CANNED IN CALIFORNIA.

The following report, received through the Sacramento office, is of special interest in showing the vast proportions of the canning industry in California. It covers the 1925 canning season and is understood to be on the basis of "cases," although the report itself does not so specify. Canned dried prunes are not included among the fruits. The statistics afford an interesting comparison with those given for the State of Washington in the D.L. for February 5, Par. 2a:

California Pack Statistics for 1925.

Fruits		Vegetables	
Apricots	2,196,680	Asparagus	1,744,999
Blackberries	31,131	Beans, String	131,346
Cherries	222,816	Peas	270,727
Gooseberries	1,051	Spinach	1,805,537
Grapes	130,269	Tomatoes	2,259,314
Loganberries	4,081	Tomato products	1,790,127
Pears	2,315,600	Other vegetables	525,841
Peaches, Free	1,198,314		8,527,891
Peaches, Cling	9,258,587		
Plums	178,910		
Other Fruits	94,413		
	15,631,852	GRAND TOTAL:	24,159,743

During 1924, only 10,362,998 cases of fruit were packed. The important increases for 1925 were in cling peaches and in pears, the 1925 pack of those products being about 70% greater than the 1924 pack.

3a. CALIFORNIA CANNED FRUITS TO BE STANDARDIZED.

The importance of the California canned-fruit industry is seen in the preceding item. Of interest in this connection is a recent act, passed by the California legislature, "to promote the development of the California fruit industry and to prevent deception in the packing, shipping and sale of canned fruit." W. F. Allewelt, Chief of the Bureau of Fruit and Vegetable Standardization, has sent us a copy of this act, with the following comments:

"Enclosed you will find a copy of Chapter 421 of the California Statutes of 1925, which is the first canned-fruit standardization act passed by this State. You will note that the provisions of this act will apply to the 1926 pack.

"On Monday, February 8, Mr. Hecke and myself held a meeting at San Francisco, which was attended by a number of the representatives of the canneries of the State, including the secretaries of the Canners' League of California and the Southern California Canners' Association. The canning fruit growers' organizations also were represented.

"This meeting was for the purpose of going over the provisions of this act with the canning interests, and outlining a plan for the work, which will be conducted under the Bureau of Fruit and Vegetable Standardization of the State Department of Agriculture. It is planned to appoint a Chief Inspector, who will have immediate charge of the work, and it is likely that four seasonal inspectors will be appointed to handle the work in the various districts of the State during the canning and shipping season. The board of appeal of seven men, provided for in the act, will be named from the leading canners of the State."

The act creates and establishes certain standards of quality and size and requirements for marking of the varieties of canned fruits, including the following: Apricots, pears, cling peaches and free peaches, black cherries, white cherries, and Royal Anne cherries. Those in charge of the enforcement of the act have the right to "seize and retain possession of any canned fruit packed, shipped, delivered for shipment, offered for sale, or sold in violation of any of the provisions of this act, and to hold same, pending decision by the board of appeal or order of the court." Penalties are provided for violation of the provisions of the act. Anyone interested in seeing a printed copy of the act doubtless can obtain same through Mr. Allewelt's office, at Sacramento.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. SPECIAL SERVICE FOR CALIFORNIA ASPARAGUS GROWERS AND SHIPPERS.

After several meetings and considerable discussion, arrangements are being completed for giving California asparagus growers and shippers a special service from our San Francisco office. Basically, it will be the same sort of service as is given cantaloupe growers and shippers in the Imperial Valley. A group of men has organized informally as the "Fresh Asparagus Growers and Shippers Association," with Mr. Louis Wetmore, of Libby, McNeill and Libby, as President. This Association will defray all additional expenses involved in giving this special service.

Every day, at about one o'clock, shippers and growers will be telephoned and an estimate secured of their prospective pack for the coming day and prospective billings for the current day's pack. This information will be tabulated and, at four o'clock, each shipper will be telephoned again and advised of the prospective pack and distribution. If the expected pack seems unusually heavy, adjustments will be made to reduce it by sending a portion of the day's cuttings to canneries. Adjustments in the distribution of the current day's shipments will be made in order to avoid the glutting of markets. Market information also will be furnished to the shippers by telephone.

The purpose of the whole arrangement, of course, is to secure wide distribution of each day's output and to avoid, if possible, shipments so heavy as to glut markets and bring unsatisfactory prices.

2b. POTATO HOLDINGS IN NEW YORK CITY.

The following letter of February 11, from W. H. Stanton, is of special interest in connection with the potato situation:-

"Inasmuch as there has been considerable interest manifested of late in the quantity of potatoes being held in storage in and around New York City, an investigation has been made in an attempt to determine the approximate quantity. This has been done by getting in touch with potato dealers, rather than with the storage companies, because potatoes may be stored in almost any accessible space, usually at less than ordinary storage costs.

"It has been found that there are approximately 450 to 500 cars of potatoes in the hands of various dealers, stored in and around the Greater City.

"When it is considered that New York last year received slightly more than 23,300 carloads of potatoes, the storage holdings are comparatively small. The average daily consumption, figuring 360 days to the year, is approximately 65 cars. With an otherwise bare market, this means that the storage holdings comprise about 8 days' supply of potatoes. Another factor to be considered in this connection is that the consumption of potatoes during the colder months of the year may be assumed to be greater than in the warmer months."

THE ILLINOIS FRUIT GROWERS' EXCHANGE, at Centralia, Ill., shipped from 35 stations in 22 counties about 430 cars of produce to 105 markets in 25 States last year. Twenty-four different products were handled.

3b. SUMMARY OF SOUTH CAROLINA POTATO DEAL.

The latest summary to be released relates to the South Carolina Potato Deal, Season of 1925, and was written by J.W. Park. The front page carries a dot-map of the commercial early-potato districts in southern States, and an excellent chart in this summary shows the average weekly carlot shipments from South Carolina and competing States during the last five years. The chapter headings of the text carry convenient references to the statistical tables, found in the closing pages. The report also includes a statement as to the outlook for the 1926 season. The table, showing daily arrivals, compares receipts of old and of new potatoes in nine markets, and another table shows the per cent of total South Carolina potato shipments unloaded in important cities during each of the last six years. There is an interesting comparison, at the end of this summary, of the acreage and price of early potatoes each spring with the total potato production the preceding year.

4b. BROCCOLI AND SPINACH FROM NORTHWEST.

The following information was included in a radio report from R. L. Ringer, of the Portland office, on February 12:

"Spinach moving from Walla Walla and will be moving in few days from Lewiston. Broccoli rolling from Roseburg. Shipments heavy in 10 days to two weeks. Stock running large; many sixes and eights. No. 1's dollar quarter to thirty five f.o.b. Some to move around here in about 10 days."

5b. FOREIGN MARKETS NEWS:

Latest reports issued by the Foreign Marketing Section include the following: F.S.:A1-12, "Foreign Almond Market Firm; Stocks Reduced." F.S.: W-7, "December and January Reports from Foreign Walnut Districts." F.S.:N-8, "The Mediterranean Filbert Market."

6b. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR FEBRUARY 13:

Page 101 - Special paragraphs on onions in the weekly review.
102 - Larger Spanish Onion Shipments.
103 - More Michigan Onions Than Expected, - by R. H. Shoemaker.
- Heavy Shipments of California Lettuce, - by C.E. Schultz.
108 - Cleveland Using Many Home-Grown Potatoes,-by R.C. Bish
112 - Slump in British Apple Market.

E. W. STILLWELL,

Specialist in Market News.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. INSPECTION WORK IN IDAHO.

Under date of February 11, L. G. Schultz sent the following report of inspections in Idaho during the period July 1 to December 31, 1925:-

Product	Cars	Product	Cars
Potatoes	5,615	Grapes	6
Apples	3,729	Mixed vegetables	5
Onions	748	Mixed melons	5
Prunes	715	Mixed F. & V.	2
Lettuce	182	Celery	1
Watermelons	13	Pears	1
		TOTAL	11,022

The first five products account for more than 99% of the total inspections.

2c. WEATHER CONDITIONS IN OREGON.

On February 4, Mr. Bailey, of the Spokane office, received the following report from F. T. Fish, inspector in charge in the Rogue River Valley of Oregon:

"We are having torrential rains and high winds for a change. The rain is very welcome, though we could dispense with the wind. Reports have it that the wind came down the Ashland canyon and blew down quite a few trees in the city park. The snowfall in the mountains has been heavy and, unless a warm wind takes it off, it will help the irrigation supply, which, so far, has been alarmingly short."

Eastern Washington also had heavy rains during the first week of February, which have brought the precipitation of many sections up to normal. Western Washington is in the rainy belt and is generally amply provided with moisture.

3c. MARKETING TEXAS FIGS.

An Alvin, Tex., dispatch to the press of February 11 states that, to preserve and market the fig crop of South Texas more successfully, the Texas Fig Association has been organized, with R. D. McDonald, of Houston, as president. Fig growers and preservers in that part of the State belong to the new organization. The total production of figs in that territory last year was 25,000,000 pounds, and a sufficient number of orchards have been set out to insure a production of 44,000,000 pounds in 1927 and 90,000,000 pounds in 1930, it is stated. A plan adopted by the new organization seeks to provide capital for efficient handling of the increased crop in prospect and to reduce operating costs of canning plants, besides introducing improved methods of cultivation and spraying.

This item is of interest in connection with the proposed Federal grades for cannery figs, which have been prepared in tentative form by B. E. Shaffer, following his trip to the fig sections of South Texas last summer.

The next six items were taken from California Inspectors' Notes No. 7, Feb.12:

4c. HAYWARD CREW AVERAGES 4.6 CARS OF BROCCOLI.

K. R. Nutting reports that Hayward broccoli has been free from freezing injury for several weeks, but last week's shipments were lower in quality, due to the rains and warm weather, many cars failing to grade No. 1. Notwithstanding this fact, Mr. Nutting and Mr. Wahlberg inspected 53 cars during the week ending January 30, and the next week 77 cars were certified. Every car shipped from Hayward, Calif., to date has been inspected, with the exception of one mixed car, making a total of 203 cars to February 6. Growers expect to finish cutting the early crop and start on the late broccoli this week and Mr. Nutting expects to certify some 45 cars. This makes a total of about 240 cars for the early broccoli crop at Hayward. It is hard to tell, at this time, exactly what the quality of the late crop will be.

5c. IMPERIAL VALLEY LETTUCE FAILING TO GRADE U. S. NO. 1.

Sam Preston reports that coats and vests are taboo in the Imperial Valley, as they are having weather more appropriate for cantaloupes than lettuce. This rise in temperature has caused considerable browning on lettuce which was affected by freezing earlier in the season. Consequently, practically none of the stock is grading U. S. No. 1 at the present time, though the heads would generally be firm enough to make grade.

Shipments have dropped down to 50 to 80 cars a day at present, due to the fact that a number of acres of lettuce seed, planted "dry" last fall, were caused to sprout earlier than was intended by the rains on October 4, thus bringing 6,000 to 8,000 acres into bearing three or four weeks earlier than anticipated. These rains also stopped planting operations for a time, and this lull in planting is having its effect on harvesting periods.

After this quiet spell has passed, a very heavy movement of lettuce is expected around March 5 to 25, though hot weather is likely to force the deal to a close about the 5th or 10th of April, and only light shipments are expected after that time.

The following tabulation of percentage of cars inspected that have graded during the period of February 1 to 7, inclusive, shows the general condition of lettuce and the very low per cent of cars grading U. S. No. 1: Feb. 1st, 12%; 2nd, 10%; 3rd, 19%; 4th, 19%; 5th, 8%; 6th, 0%; 7th, 0%. Even with this low percentage of cars grading No. 1, 195 cars were certified during this period, or about 24% of total shipments. Up to and including Feb. 7, 1926, about 1,055 cars had been inspected, representing about 22% of the shipments. During the same period last season, we find that 507 cars were inspected, representing about 18% of the shipments.

6c. RESISTANT STRAINS OF LETTUCE PREVENT "RUSSET"

Dr. I. C. Jagger, U. S. D. A. Plant Pathologist, has completed some conclusive experiments, proving that brown blight disease of lettuce, commonly known as "russet," can be controlled by the use of seed selected from resistant plants.

(continued on next page)

His experiments are being conducted in a large field near Brawley, Calif., which had become so badly infested with brown blight that lettuce growing there had been abandoned. Plantings of seed, carefully selected from plants which showed resistance to the disease, are now growing in this field and are practically free from any signs of brown blight. Growing beside these plantings are check plots of ordinary commercial seed, in which practically 100% of the plants are either dead or badly affected.

Plans are being made to propagate seed from the hardiest of his selections and eventually supply this seed to the commercial acreages which are threatened with blight. As many hundreds of acres in the Imperial Valley have been abandoned for lettuce growing on account of this disease, Dr. Jaggar's results will be of immense value to the industry there.

7c. COLD STORAGE NEWTOWNS SHOW SERIOUS BROWNING.

Yellow Newtowns in cold storage are showing considerable internal browning, as recently discovered by Ralph Hooper, C. H. Beasley, county men, and others inspecting in the warehouses and markets. This condition, which is being found mainly in Watsonville Newtowns, is very serious in many cases. In Los Angeles alone, over 1,400 boxes of Newtowns have been found, showing this condition. Considerable research has been done at various times to discover a remedy for this trouble, and, as a result, Newtowns are now held at 38° F. rather than 32° F., which greatly aids in preserving their condition. Internal browning is characterized by the softening of the apple, particularly at the stem end, and in many cases a flattening of the sides, somewhat similar to a tomato which is "puffy." Lots from some orchards and localities are usually more seriously affected than others. Apples in common storage are not affected.

8c. WILTING OF CELERY FROM CHULA VISTA UNEXPLAINED.

A car of celery from Chula Vista, Calif., was reported as arriving at Calgary, Canada, in a wilted condition, though otherwise exactly according to inspection report. So far, no explanation has been found, and Mr. Collins (inspector) is certain that the celery was loaded in the car within two hours from the time it was packed in the field. Whether this condition is going to be characteristic of Chula Vista celery this season remains to be seen.

9c. GRAPE LUGS TO BE STANDARDIZED.

A meeting of shippers and box shook manufacturers was called in Sacramento, February 15, with a view to eliminating as many of the odd sizes of grape lugs as possible and standardizing a few practical sizes.

10c. DIRECTORY FOR NORTHWESTERN INSPECTION SERVICE.

F. E. Bailey, of the Spokane office, has issued a complete directory of the names and addresses of men in Washington and Oregon, connected with the shipping-point inspection service. A number of State officials also are included, as is L. G. Schultz, Supervising Inspector at Boise, Idaho. The list includes 48 representatives in the State of Washington and 27 in Oregon. Copies can be had directly from Mr. Bailey.

11c. COLOR SCHEME FOR LABELS IN NORTHWEST.

In Par. 11c, of the D.L. for January 29, reference was made to the colors used on labels for fruit packages in the State of Washington, the blue color being generally used for Extra Fancy grade, the red for Fancy grade, and the white for C grade. F. E. Bailey recently wrote a letter to A. E. Mercker, at Raleigh, N. C., which included this additional information:-

"Regarding the color scheme used for apple and pear labels, you will note that, while blue, red, and white is the classic color scheme for the three grades, these colors are not adhered to by many shippers, especially in the C grade, where yellow and green are frequently used instead of white. Perhaps this may be due to the fact that many designs become ineffective with white predominating. You will also note another common practice of our Northwestern shippers in maintaining a high standard and perhaps advertised brand for the Extra Fancy and Fancy, but they use an entirely different brand and label design for an unadvertised C grade. An example of this is found in the Yakima Fruit Growers' Association 'Y' and Snokist brands. Another common practice of shippers is to have a brand for use on Extra Fancy and Fancy stock which for some reason is not quite up to the standard maintained for the regular Extra Fancy and Fancy stock. The Yakima Fruit Growers' have a Blue Stripe brand, which they use for this purpose and which is comparatively unknown beside the 'Y' brand."

12c. FLORIDA SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTIONS.

The following inspections were made at shipping points in Florida during the period January 16 to 31:

F R U I T S

Section	Grapefruit	Oranges	Tangerines	Mixed Citrus	Total
Clermont	0	4	0	5	9
Groveland	6	2	0	1	9
Lakeland	5	2	0	4	11
Leesburg	0	8	0	4	12
Mt. Dora	3	8	2	7	20
Ocala	0	5	0	0	5
Tavares	1	4	0	4	9
Umatilla	9	8	0	9	26
Totals	24	41	2	34	101
Total reported to Jan. 15	185	272	39	123	619
	209	313	41	157	720

V E G E T A B L E S

Section	Celery	Section	Celery
Brandenton	7	Stevens Siding	1
Manatee	2	Terra Ceia	2
Palmetto	35	Total	72
Rands Siding	1	Total reported	
Rubonia	1	to Jan. 15	6
Sanford	23		78

TOTAL INSPECTIONS OF FRUITS AND VEGETABLES TO JANUARY 31 - - - - - - 798

RECEIVING-POINT INSPECTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY, 1926.

Markets	Total Inspections	Total Same Month 1925	Inspections for Carriers	Declined for Lack Time	Total Fees
Atlanta	99	39	5	1	$ 403.50
Baltimore	31	33	3	0	118.50
Boston	90	54	11	0	381.50
Buffalo	45	62	10	0	168.50
Chicago	274	369	7	0	1475.50
Cincinnati	38	20	0	1	177.00
Cleveland	82	99	44	0	339.50
Columbus	25	28	1	0	106.50
Denver	10	8	0	0	44.00
Detroit	91	48	11	0	352.50
Fort Worth	24	13	0	0	96.00
Harrisburg	3	7	3	0	10.50
Houston	25	36	0	0	95.00
Indianapolis	26	33	1	0	108.00
Kansas City	85	86	21	0	358.50
Los Angeles	4	2	1	0	14.50
Memphis	45	41	34	0	181.00
Milwaukee	27	19	0	0	112.00
Minneapolis	41	71	3	1	181.00
Newark	27	-	0	0	110.00
New Haven	66	26	2	0	277.50
New Orleans	115	164	69	0	458.50
New York	547	872	74	0	2206.25
Norfolk	20	30	5	6	94.00
Omaha	26	28	1	0	103.50
Philadelphia	78	37	18	0	324.50
Pittsburgh	72	63	9	0	306.50
Portland	47	37	14	3	183.00
Raleigh	6	-	0	0	22.50
St. Louis	115	117	70	0	476.00
San Francisco	3	-	1	0	12.00
Salt Lake City	1	1	0	0	4.00
Washington	64	43	3	0	261.50
Wilkes-Barre	7	5	2	0	31.00
TOTAL	2259	2491	423	12	$9594.25

13c. CAUTION REGARDING OREGON GRADES.

Attached to the D. L. for December 4, 1925, was a list of the State grades, which every inspector is supposed to have on file. Among these appeared the Hood River, Oregon, grades for 1924. F. E. Bailey advises that "these grades became obsolete, when the State-wide apple and pear grades became effective on July 31, 1925. All market inspectors should destroy their copies of the apple and pear grade rules, issued by the office of the County Fruit Inspector, at Hood River, Oregon."

INSPECTIONS FOR THE NAVY AND MARINE CORPS DURING JANUARY, 1926.

SYMBOLS: N - NAVY M - MARINE CORPS	ALL FIGURES IN THESE COLUMNS REPRESENT POUNDS									
	Fruits and Vegetables PASSED		Fruits and Vegetables REJECTED		TOTAL QUANTITY INSPECTED		"Outs" Made to Comply with Specifications		Items Billed Short-weight	
STATIONS	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M
BOSTON	298245	1786	5913	0	304158	1786	67	0	659	0
NEW YORK	765905	51684	15295	342	781200	52226	250	30	0	0
NORFOLK	1498131	0	52000	0	1550131	0	0	0	0	0
PHILADELPHIA	417762	16196	3477	80	421239	18276	929	10	0	0
SAN DIEGO	902816	48513	10209	2362	913025	50875	1252	112	18	0
SAN FRANCISCO	2725451	0	150000	0	2875451	0	12432	0	0	0
SAN PEDRO	718912	0	26186	0	745098	0	3380	0	0	0
VALLEJO	203410	26878	30060	0	233470	26878	657	0	0	0
TOTALS	7530632	147257	293140	2784	7823772	150041	18967	152	677	0

INSPECTIONS MADE FOR U. S. SHIPPING BOARD					
NEW YORK	21560	1570	23130	0	0
NORFOLK	38631	531	39162	0	0
PHILADELPHIA	2543	290	2833	0	0
TOTALS	62734	2391	65125	0	0

In addition to the above, the New York office inspected the following:

	Vegetables	Fruits	Rejections
For the United States Lines.....	243,902 lbs.	123,064 lbs.	5,418 lbs.
For the United American Lines.....	- -	107,259	9,671
For the Munson Line.....	74,458	15,425	40,765
For the American Diamond Line.....	7,458	1,485	1,200
For the American Merchant Line.....	8,116	2,178	200
For the American France Line.....	8,306	2,036	770

The San Pedro office also inspected and passed the following: Bread 7,296 lbs.; Butter 11,033 lbs.; Cheese 3,464½ lbs.

The Vallejo office also inspected and passed the following for the Navy: Bread 30,290 lbs.; Rolls 850 lbs.

14c. PAPER USED IN TEST CARS FROM NORTHWEST.

In response to a request for this information, H. C. Diehl, Assistant Physiologist with B.P.I., at Wenatchee, Wash., wrote the following to C. H. Behnke, under date of February 10:-

"I can give you the following information relative to the heater car tests which were begun here last week:

"In 1921, R.R.Pailthorp and V.G.Gibson, in a report on refrigerator car heating tests, conducted by the then Bureau of Markets and Crop Estimates, among their recommendations suggested the use of paper over and under the load in such cars, to increase their efficiency.

"They stated then that the use of paper in such a manner assisted in maintaining a higher temperature in the bottom or freezing zone of the car, while the top layer temperatures were not correspondingly increased. The paper served to compel the column of warm air from the heaters to move to the center of the car over the top of the load, whence it dropped down to the floor in the space between the bracing and returned to the bunkers beneath the load. Thus it appeared to give protection to the load, with a minimum heating effect on the fruit itself.

"Following these ideas, the Western Fruit Express this fall provided cars to be moved out under Carriers' Protective Service, with rolls of 60-pound Kraft Manilla paper for the purpose of papering the top and bottom of the load. The paper is cut in strips as long as the load, as the loading proceeds. The floor space between the bracing is not papered, while the paper generally overhangs the load slightly at the bracing.

"In order to make a thorough test of the effect and value of such papering, the Western Fruit Express and Wenatchee Valley Traffic Association cooperated in inaugurating what promises to be a series of test trips, to be run this winter and during the winter of 1926-27. The Office of Horticultural Investigations of the Bureau of Plant Industry is assisting in this work by loaning the necessary sets of electrical resistance thermometers, required in recording the temperatures within these cars, and also, through its representative at Wenatchee, Washington, is aiding in getting the test prepared. It is also proposed to make maturity tests on experimental boxes of apples shipped in these cars.

"The first test trip of five cars left Wenatchee on February 1. The cars were of the WFE 65000 series and equipped with charcoal heaters. The cars differed from each other in the loading and use of paper as follows:

Car 1; Standard braced load, 756 boxes - paper top and bottom.
2; " " " " " - paper bottom only.
3; " " " " " - no paper.
4; Solid load without bracing, 756 boxes, paper top and bottom.
5; " " " " " " , no paper.

"Cars 4 and 5 were added to provide information on the temperature behavior of the load under solid loading, without bracing, as is practiced rather extensively in the Yakima district, and for which the claim of reduced breakage, lessened cost through absence of bulkheading, and ease of inspection is made.

(continued on next page)

"You undoubtedly are familiar with the method used in recording the temperatures, without opening the car doors, with the aid of this electrical equipment. Twelve temperature positions were established in each car, six to record fruit temperatures in various portions of the load and six to register the corresponding air temperatures.

"The success of any one trip, of course, depends more or less upon the weather which is encountered en route, particularly weather of such temperature severity that heaters must be lighted. This fact probably will make it necessary to conduct a considerable number of test trips, in order to procure convincing, as well as accurate, information."

Mr. Behnke, in his letter of transmittal, gave the following explanation of the temperature-taking devices on these test cars:

"The method of recording the temperatures en route, as referred to in the next to last paragraph of Mr. Diehl's letter, is simply this: The men in charge of the cars have what is called an indicator box, or galvanometer, which looks a good deal like an ordinary electrical rheostat. A master cable, connected to the twelve temperature positions in the load, leads out under the door through a flattened tube and up onto the top of the car. The end of the cable has an attachment with twelve numbered points, which fits into a similar attachment leading from the indicator box. Every two hours, or whenever the train stops, the men in charge of the cars connect the indicator box with the master cable, the end of which is on the top of the car on the 'cat walk'. By moving the connection on the rheostat-like attachment to the variously-numbered points, corresponding to the temperature positions in the load, the temperature is indicated on a dial on the box. This whole operation usually only takes a few minutes and obviates the necessity of opening the doors to get the temperatures.

"A recording Ryan thermometer also was attached to the outside of the caboose on the train, in which the test shipments were made, to get a continuous record of the outside temperatures, while the cars were in transit."

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

SEE items 15c and 16c on Page 108,
received too late for classification.

OFFICE NOTES:

Robert Bier expects to leave about March 1 for various points in the South, to confer with State officials and others regarding shipping-point inspection work this season. He will go to Pocomoke City, Md.; Raleigh, N.C.; Clemson College, S.C.; Atlanta, Ga.; Jacksonville, Texas, and Knoxville, Tenn., in addition to other points en route.

The February 1 issue of the California Grape Grower (San Francisco) contains a front-page article by W. F. Allewelt, of the Sacramento office, on "The Value of Standardization and Inspection." The State standardization service and the cooperative Federal-State inspection service are described in this article, and special reference is made to the work in grape shipping sections.

H. A. Spilman expects to leave on Monday night for Cincinnati, where he will confer with a group of package manufacturers regarding standard containers. He probably will be back by Thursday.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

Wendell Calhoun, of Colorado, has been given an appointment as Junior Marketing Specialist, and will report for duty next Tuesday in the Chicago office of the Market News Service. Mr. Calhoun received his B. S. degree from Colorado Agricultural College in 1916, and later completed a course in the marketing of fruits, vegetables, poultry and dairy products with the American Institute of Agriculture. During the period from 1916 to 1920, he was employed in Wyoming, part of the time as County Agent for Big Horn County, and later as manager of potato farms. Since 1920, Mr. Calhoun has been engaged in farming in Colorado and at the time of his appointment was in the employ of the Farr Produce Company, at Greeley.

Donald M. James, of the Harrisburg office, has been given a cooperative appointment from a recently-established Civil Service register. Mr. James has been serving as cooperative inspector in Pennsylvania since September.

Walter Steinbauer, Jr., arrived last Friday in the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Steinbauer, of Newark, N. J..

No market reports on lettuce are being issued at the Brownsville, Texas, field station. Lettuce should be cancelled from the schedule of reports, as published in the January 29 D. L. list of temporary field stations.

C. J. Hansen and H. A. Harris have been authorized to attend a meeting of the California Development Association, at Los Angeles, the latter part of this month. Principal attendants at this gathering will be the members of the committee on statistical and economic information. Mr. Hansen will be present as joint representative of the Federal and State Agricultural Departments, his expenses being paid by the State.

H. E. Rutland, in charge of the Presque Isle field station, was called to Williston, Fla., early this week on account of the serious illness and subsequent death of his mother. H. F. Willson, of the Philadelphia office, proceeded to Presque Isle on Tuesday night, to handle the market reports until Mr. Rutland returns next week. Sympathy is extended to Mr. Rutland in the loss of his mother.

Last Tuesday, a class of 20 students, taking a short course at Rutgers University, visted our New York City office and were given a talk on the Market News Service by S. W. Russell and on the Inspection Service by W. C. Hackleman. In addition, W. H. Stanton assisted in answering the numerous questions which arose concerning the two services. The students had been visiting the New York market and had been to one of the produce piers and one of the auction sales that morning.

We wish to commend the men who advise us promptly, when the D. L. has failed to reach them. Once in a while, the Letter may go astray in the mails or may be unduly delayed. A copy is mailed to each member of the staff every Saturday.

(See additional Inspection items on next page)

(Continued from Page 106)

15c. UNNECESSARY USE OF WIRES.

My attention has been called to the use of wires for communications which did not demand immediate consideration. Letters would have served the purpose just as well and, without doubt, would have been much more satisfactory, because they would have contained more details than were furnished in the wires. Wires should be used only when it is imperative that the information be furnished on the day on which the telegram is sent, or, in the case of wires sent late in the evening, on the following morning.

16c. REQUESTS BY SHIPPING-POINT SUPERVISORS FOR SECOND INSPECTIONS IN MARKETS.

Paragraphs 100, 101, and 102 of Part I, Receiving-Point Handbook, cover in detail the subject of second inspections made at the request of shipping-point supervisors. My attention has recently been called to several instances in which shipping-point supervisors have requested inspections but did not state that the information was requested by the shippers. Informal inspections were made and the information, instead of being kept confidential (as should have been), was given by the shipping-point supervisor to the shippers. It should be remembered that, unless the shipping-point supervisor, in wiring for such inspections, states that the request for the second inspection is made by the shipper, only an informal inspection will be made and the results will be reported by letter and not by certificate. Such information is to enable the shipping-point supervisor to check up on the work of his men and is to be considered confidential. Wires requesting inspections of this kind should state definitely whether it is a shipper's request or "for my information." Strict compliance with these instructions will be expected from all shipping-point supervisors.

F. G. ROBB.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 7, NO. 9
February 26, 1926.
(Contents Confidential)

1a. APPLE SURVEY OF U. S. AND CANADA.

There has recently been issued by the Department of Agricultural Relations, New York Central Lines, New York City, an excellent, illustrated booklet, entitled: "Apple Survey of the United States and Canada." This 64-page booklet describes briefly each of the important apple-growing sections and tells of the principal varieties of apples produced in each district. Under each of the States, the adverse factors, the advantages, and the production trend are discussed. It is presumed that interested employees in the F. & V. Division can obtain copies of this Survey by writing directly to E. H. Anderson, Manager of the Dept. of Agricultural Relations, New York Central Lines, 466 Lexington Avenue, New York City. The booklet is well worth having on file in each of our offices. A commendatory letter from Secretary Jardine appears inside the front cover.

2a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR FEBRUARY 20:

Page 117 - Special paragraphs on apples in the weekly review.
118 - New York City Receives 200,000 Cars, - by W. H. Stanton.
119 - Red onions in Michigan, - by R. H. Shoemaker. (filler)
- Good Demand for Florida Celery, - by R. L. Sutton.
- Big Pack of Washington Canned Apples.
- Many Inspections in California.
128 - Greek Currant Crops Smaller Than Last Year.
- British Apple Market.

3a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR JANUARY 9:

It has just been discovered that, through an oversight, the contents of "Crops and Markets" for January 9, 1926, were not listed in the D. L. They are shown below, as a matter of record:

Page 21 - Special paragraphs on potatoes in the weekly review.
22 - Shipments of Florida grapefruit. (filler)
23 - Louisiana Storing Certified Seed Potatoes.
- Prune and Apricot Distribution Problems.
24 - Standard Trading Rules Proposed.
- Auction Sales of Bananas.
26 - Winter lettuce shipments from the West. (filler)
32 - Large Deciduous Fruit Crop in South Africa.
- Smaller Spanish Onion Shipments.

4a. LOUISIANA STRAWBERRY OUTLOOK.

A letter, written by the Louisiana Strawberry Cooperative Association last week, contained the following sentence: -"The strawberry crop is in fine shape right now and, from present indications, it looks like we will have the largest crop we have had in several years."

5a. IMPORTANT DATA ON IMPERIAL VALLEY LETTUCE.

In response to a request from the Truck Crop Section of the Division of Crop and Livestock Estimates, C. E. Schultz, of the El Centro field station, wrote the following interesting letter on February 19:-

"Yields of Imperial Valley lettuce this year have varied widely with different soil and growing conditions in the Valley. Some growers have reported yields as low as 75 to 100 crates per acre; others have produced as much as a car to the acre, or 300 crates. During the first two months, mainly December and January, the yield was probably a little above the average for that time of the year, and, for the Valley as a whole, might have been close to an average of 125 packed crates per acre. It is likely that yields from now on will be heavier, although there is a possibility that considerable stock will develop so late in the season that warm weather will cause it to blow up. However, the season's average probably will be brought up to around 150 or 160 packed crates per acre. The general pack out of lettuce is running from 50 to 75 per cent of field crates delivered; in other words, for every 100 field crates, there are from 50 to 75 packed crates loaded, the balance of the stock being culled and reduced by trimming.

"Fully 75 per cent of thelettuce here is produced by shippers who grow their own stock. A very small proportion of the shipments is purchased by shippers on a pack-out basis. In order to arrive at the price paid to the grower, it is necessary to consider the cash-track prices, from which harvesting, packing, and selling costs must be deducted to obtain net to grower. Cash prices this year have ranged generally from $1.25 to $2.50, mostly from $1.50 to $2.00 per crate. The majority of loadings have been of 5-dozen sizes, so that the general average is probably pretty close to the lower range of the general price, possibly $1.50 to $1.75 per crate. Around $1.00 less than this would represent the general net to the grower. A number of patches have been purchased by speculators, and prices on these have ranged from $50 to $300 per acre, depending on the yield, quality, and market prospects at time of purchase. Most patches have been sold for between $100 and $200 per acre. Some of these purchases have made money for the speculators, and others have lost money.

"While discussing yields and prices it may be well to include also the acreage figures and probable shipments. The County Horticultural Commissioner estimates approximately 25,000 acres of lettuce. The Southern Pacific Railroad checks the acreage at 28,000. The latter's figures are usually nearer correct than the former's; at least, this has been my experience on both lettuce and cantaloupes during the past four seasons that I have been down here. In checking over shipment figures for the past five years, as compared with the acreage figures recorded, it has been found that the commercial production averages .4699 cars per acre. This would make the final shipments this year between 12,000 and 14,000 cars. From another angle, the average shipments during December and January have been 27 per cent of the total movement in the past five years, varying from 31 per cent five years ago to 22 per cent last year. Last season, however, was a very exceptional one and should be disregarded as a basis for any calculation. The five-year average of 27 per cent is very near the actual performance of the other years of this period. If the 4,000 cars, which were shipped up to the 1st of February of this year represent 27 per cent of the total, this would mean shipments of 14,800 cars. If they were the maximum or 31 per cent; such as five years ago, it would mean total shipments of 12,900 cars. Conditions at present are above normal and minimum figures are hardly applicable to the situation. We are now 2,200 cars

ahead of last season to date, with just as much, or very likely more, lettuce left to be shipped than was left last year this time. A performance equal to last year's from now on would make a total movement of 12,000 cars. It is probable that much more lettuce will be matured than will be shipped, if my observations are anywhere near correct. There were probably 1,000 to 1,500 cars left in the fields last year at the end of the deal, and the same amount or more may be unharvested at the close of the present season. It seems likely that shipments during the last half of February will be only moderate, and the heavy movement probably will be delayed until sometime in March. The exact date depends upon the weather.

"The market at present is very active and advancing, and may continue to be on a fairly good basis for another week or ten days, possibly longer, but there is every indication that this condition will be only temporary at best and will be followed, no doubt, by a serious over-supply and depression at the wind-up of the deal, unless the consumptive demand for lettuce increases more rapidly this year than it ever has before. Many days of 150 to 200 cars seem very probable in March.

"The amount of stock shipped in mixed cars is probably around one or two per cent of the total movement. The amount moving by truck is almost negligible and is of no material consequence on this deal at present."

6a. AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK FOR 1926.

The February 8 report on The Agricultural Outlook for 1926 has now been printed as a 32-page pamphlet, designated as Miscellaneous Circular No. 65. A limited number of copies are available on request to the Division of Information, Room 709 Bieber Bldg., B.A.E., Washington, D. C. Employees having the mimeographed report will not need the printed pamphlet.

7a. ADDITIONAL FOREIGN MARKET REPORTS.

Mimeographed reports, recently issued by the Foreign Marketing Section, include the following:- F.S.:A-45, "The Cuban Apple Market." F.S.:O-17, "Spanish Onion Shipments."

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. REPORT DESIRED ON DISTRIBUTION OF OUTLOOK REPORTS. (Reply)

A report is desired from each market and field station, regarding the distribution given to the Agricultural Outlook Reports, as released February 8. Indicate which reports were released and to which mailing list sent, including, of course, the approximate number of names on such mailing list. For example, Denver might advise that the report on potatoes wasreleased to the general mailing list and to the special list, indicating the number of names on each; that the cantaloupe report was sent to those on the Rocky Ford list, with the number of names on that list, etc.

2b. WISCONSIN POTATO SITUATION.

The following information was included in a letter of February 17 from W. H. Mosier, of the Waupaca field station:-

"In regard to the Wisconsin potato deal, will say everything is going nicely, all factors are making money, and, although prices did not and probably will not advance to levels predicted last fall, the situation is entirely satisfactory. The concensus of opinion seems to be that prices have already seen their high point for the season, and from now on may possibly work to lower levels. At present, growers are receiving from $3.00 to $3.25 per cwt. for bulk Round Whites, compared with 60¢ a year ago. The total number of cars to be shipped from the State for the season may be in the neighborhood of 15,000. The amount of stock generally held at thistime of year is probably below normal. Best estimates placethe number of cars remaining at about 4,000. Regarding the market news work, will say our mailing list on January 1 was approximately 1,900, the largest in the history of the Waupaca station. After circularizing, we still have 1,300 active names."

3b. SUMMARY OF MINNESOTA POTATO DEAL.

For the first time, a summary has been issued of the entire Minnesota potato deal. This summary, prepared by R. M. Peterson of the Minneapolis office, covers the 1924-25 season and is a very complete statistical report, including some figures on North Dakota potatoes, also. Carlot shipments are shown by stations in Minnesota and North Dakota for each of the months during the season under review. Minnesota shipments are summarized by months since 1917, and there is a table of potato imports from 1901 to 1924. Destinations are given for shipments from Minnesota, and the acreage, yield, production and farm value are listed for each county. A map on the front cover also shows acreage data. Potato shipping seasons in the respective States are tabulated, and there is a table showing unloads in all the larger markets, together with daily wholesale prices of Minnesota stock in Chicago, Kansas City and St. Louis. Carlot prices also are given f.o.b. the Minneapolis-St. Paul district and the Moorhead section. Copies of this summary doubtless can be obtained directly from Mr. Peterson, of the Minneapolis office.

COACHELLA VALLEY onions are expected to start moving about April 25, according to a recent report from H. A. Harris, of the Los Angeles office. Best information indicates around 2,200 acres of onions in that section.

4b. MORE NEWS ON FLORIDA CITRUS FRUITS.

Commenting on the results of a Fruitman's Club meeting, held at Orlando, Fla., on the evening of February 17, R. H. Lamb wrote:-

" The Fruitman's Club went on record as recommending that the next two weeks' shipments of oranges should not exceed 900 cars, on the basis of a seven-day week, and that the grapefruit movement on the same basis should not exceed 65 cars daily.

" Acording to advice received from the California Fruit Growers, the estimate of the Navel crop, due probably to the recent rains, is on the increase rather than on the decrease as is the case with the orange crop in this State. There has been a slight freeze in Tulare County, which will probably result in an earlier movement of Valencias than was anticipated. Should the Valencia movement start March 15, as at the present time seems likely, it will crowd the last of the Navels and naturally raise the California shipments. It is now believed in California that there are 3,000 more cars to be shipped in the next three months than was the case last year, and with these facts before the Fruitman's Club (in spite of the light crop in Florida), it seemed best to the members to ship all the fruit possible in the next month.

" Although the Fruitman's Club considered a month ago that 14,000,000 boxes was the probable citrus crop of Florida, it was noticed last evening that some of the members believe that the crop is even less than this figure. There has been a heavy dropping in the last month or six weeks, that has naturally lessened the crop to be moved; in fact, one member stated that he believed the drop this year would amount to nearly 2,000,000 boxes.

" The rains in California during the past two weeks and the comparatively light shipments from Florida have placed Florida citrus fruits in a strong position. Both oranges and grapefruit have responded with an advance, particularly on an f.o.b. basis, and the auctions in the last few days are also showing considerable strength. Seedlings and good mid-season oranges are bringing $3.00 to $3.25, with the best 'pineapples' selling from $3.40 to $3.50. Grapefruit, at the present time, is being quoted and sold on a size basis, with 64's and 70's scarce and high. The usual quotation at the time of writing is $3.50 for good 70's and a moderate portion of 64's, with a 50¢ discount on 46's and fully $1.00 off on 36's. Personally, I have known of Marsh Seedless, which are now few and far between, being quoted at $3.75 and $4.00, but have not heard of any sales at this price."

4½b. UNITED PRESS ASSOCIATIONS USING REPORTS.

Mr. Stanton, of the New York office, is furnishing the United Press Associations with a concise daily report on fruits and vegetables on the New York market. This is sent over their wires each morning, just before noon, and seems to be meeting with favor. The Financial Editor of the U.P.A. wrote Mr. Stanton as follows on February 15: "The addition of your New York fruit and vegetable report to our service appears to be highly appreciated by most of our clients on the financial wire. The New Era, at Lancaster, Pa., said it was just what they wanted, while the Minneapolis Journal, the Kansas City Post, and the St. Louis Star were quick to sing its praises. Our other clients, including the Scripps-Howard papers in Ohio, were interested enough to give it a trial, in order to see what response it met with."

5b. SUMMARY OF PHILADELPHIA UNLOADS, 1925.

E.R. Biddle has just released an excellent summary of the 1925 carlot unloads of fruits and vegetables in the Philadelphia market. A map on the front cover shows the States shipping products to Philadelphia and the number of cars from each State. Similar figures appear in one of the tables, with comparative data for 1923 and 1924. Total receipts of 66 products were 42,587 cars. A chart shows the relation between unloads for 1924 and those for 1925, on a monthly basis. Total figures are given by months for each product, and then separate tables appear for each fruit and vegetable, listing the monthly unloads by States of origin. Only a limited supply of this summary is available, and copies can be had from Mr. Biddle.

6b. NEW YORK CABBAGE, CARROTS AND APPLES.

A glance at the western New York situation on three important crops was given by A.E. Prugh, of the Rochester office, in letters dated February 23:

"The cabbage deal here is about through. It is estimated that from 100 to 150 cars may move after today. I sent out an estimate of 300 cars remaining, in my f.o.b. wire of the 13th, but it seems there will be a few more, as 264 have already moved. In deals such as this, with high prices, they always seem to be able to find a few extra cars, and the territory is very scattered. The f.o.b. market is now $55-$60. Shipments may continue for a couple weeks but, as above stated, the total should not exceed 150 more cars.

"Regarding carrots,-they will continue to move into May, and most shippers think there are plenty left. The Campbell Soup Company is a big factor in the carrot market here; during the month of January, New York State shipped 273 straight cars of carrots, 48 of which went to Camden to the soup factory. I have no way of estimating, with any degree of accuracy, the tonnage left. The f.o.b. market is dull now, with an occasional sale at $1.50 per 100-pound sack.

"Apple movement is heavy,-150 cars Saturday and 130 Monday. Small towns commenced to buy, when the price dropped to $3.25 f.o.b. for A2½ Baldwins. It looks as if they would have to keep up a movement of 100 cars a day to market the crop. Some still have common-storage stock left."

7b. CABBAGE IN THE LOWER VALLEY OF TEXAS.

Following is an extract from a letter written by a shipper in the Lower Valley of Texas on February 20th:

"You are, no doubt, posted on cabbage acreage here in the Lower Valley this season, but, if not, will state for your information that there are about 11,000 acres planted to cabbage, from which it is expected that approximately 4,000 cars will be shipped; yield will be light on account of considerable late planting and setbacks received from cold weather in December and January. At that, the cabbage deal looks good until about 1st of April, anyway. Some speculating is being done by buying crops in fields; last month some acreage was purchased at $100 to $125 per acre, whereas some is now being bought at prices as high as $150 to $200."

E. W. STILLWELL,

Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

STATIONS	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably will close
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	Mrs.L.B. Gerry	Apples	Aug. 24	Mar. 27
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO 230 Federal Bldg.	845	W.F. Cox	Potatoes	Sept. 2	Apr. 15
ROCHESTER, N.Y.** 419 Triangle Bldg.	837	A.E. Prugh	Apples	Sept. 4	Apr. 1
			Pears*	Sept. 4	Oct. 31*
			Cabbage	Sept. 4	Mar. 10
			Onions	Sept. 14	Apr. 1
			Peaches*	Sept. 14	Oct. 3*
			Celery*	Sept. 16	Jan. 23*
			Potatoes	Sept. 16	Apr. 1
			Grapes*	Sept. 21	Oct. 31*
			Carrots	Sept. 23	Apr. 1
PRESQUE ISLE, ME. Graves Hardware Block	842	H.E. Rutland	Potatoes	Sept. 8	Apr. 1
WAUPACA, WIS.** Court House	894	W.H. Mosier	Potatoes	Sept. 14	Mar. 31
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. 419 Federal Bldg. MAIL: P.O. Box 86	895	R.H. Shoemaker	Apples*	Oct. 7	Nov. 24*
			Potatoes	Oct. 7	June 1
			Onions	Oct. 7	Mar. 1 (?)
ORLANDO, FLA.** 20 Phillips Bldg. MAIL: P.O. Box 188	920	R.H. Lamb	Citrus Fruit	Nov. 2	Apr. 15
EL CENTRO, CALIF. Barbara Worth Hotel	933	C.E. Schultz	Lettuce	Jan. 4	Apr. 10
SANFORD, FLA.** Court House	910	R.L. Sutton	Celery	Jan. 22	Apr. 10
BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS** Chamber of Commerce	931	J.D. Evers	Cabbage	Feb. 1	May 1
			Beets & Carrots	Feb. 1	May 1
			Potatoes	Mar. 15	May 1
			Stg.Bean	Apr. 1	May 1
			Tomatoes	Apr. 15	May 1

** State cooperating

* Reports discontinued.

Spokane, Idaho Falls and Presque Isle reports are now on a thrice-weekly basis.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. LIABILITY OF INSPECTORS.

The question of liability of an inspector for making false certificates has often been raised. The following act answers this question:-

Officer Making False Certificate; Punishment.
(Act March 4, 1909, ch. 321, sec. 106)

Whoever, being a public officer or other person authorized by any law of the United States to make or give a certificate or other writing, shall knowingly make and deliver as true such a certificate or writing, containing any statement which he knows to be false, in a case where the punishment thereof is not elsewhere expressly provided by law, shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars, or imprisoned not more than one year, or both. (35 Stat. 1107.)

2c. MAKING DEPOSITIONS.

It is the policy of the Inspection Service to permit inspectors to testify in court cases in which their certificates are involved, whenever such can be done without seriously interfering with the official duties of the inspector. It is sometimes impracticable to have an inspector appear and testify, because of the distance and the amount of time which would be required. However, it is possible for inspectors to make depositions in such cases, and this should always be done upon request by any party who desires to use the facts shown on certificates as evidence in court cases.

The usual procedure in handling depositions is for the attorneys for plaintiff and defendant to agree upon a set of questions and upon a cross examination. These are mailed to some notary in the city in which the witness is located, and the questions are answered by the witness appearing before the notary. They are returned by the notary to the clerk of the court in which the case is to be tried, and are kept by him until they are offered as testimony during the course of the trial.

It usually takes only a few minutes to make these depositions. No charges should be made in connection with such testimony, unless it is necessary to take leave without pay in order to make the deposition. This willnot likely be the case.

Parties who desire depositions of this kind should not be advised that a certified copy of the certificate is just as good as the deposition. Cases in which the testimony of inspectors has been offered indicate that direct testimony or depositions are much more effective than offering the certificate alone as evidence. It should be remembered, further, that the certificates are prima facie evidence only in United States courts and that at least $3,000 must be involved before such cases can be taken into the Federal courts. The acceptance of these certificates as prima facie evidence in State or municipal courts is optional with the court, and, while they usually are so accepted, there have been instances in which the judge refused to allow them to be used.

NEW YORK CITY staff made 5,240 inspections during the last six months, varying from 383 in August to 1,380 in November. The monthly average was about 875 inspections. During this period, Chicago ranked next with a total of 1,435 and a monthly average of about 240.

3c. GRADES FOR BUNCHED RADISHES.

With this D.L., each inspector will receive a copy of the Federal grades for bunched radishes.

4c. INSPECTION AVAILABLE FOR EXTRACTED HONEY.

With the aid of a commercial honey grader, the Fruit and Vegetable Division is now in a position to inspect extracted honey in the Washington office, grade it for color and issue certificates on it. E. L. Sechrist, of the Bee Culture Laboratory, has been cooperating with this Bureau in making studies on comb honey grading. It is expected that grades for comb honey will soon be drafted on the basis of the past season's investigations.

5c. PAPERED CARS BEING LABELED ON CEILING.

Under date of February 17, W. F. Allewelt, of the Sacramento office, sent the following information regarding the marking of California cars:-

"It recently has come to my attention that, in some cases, refrigerator cars are papered on the ends and sides, clear to the ceiling. This is being done in the case of lettuce and cauliflower, where ice is placed on the top of the load and not in the bunkers. In such cases, we have instructed inspectors to place their crayon markings on the ceiling, as near as possible to the usual place where the car is marked. It probably will be well to call this fact to the attention of inspectors in the receiving markets."

6c. CAULIFLOWER AND BROCCOLI IN CALIFORNIA.

W. F. Allewelt, of Sacramento, wrote the following letter on February 15, which will be of interest to all inspectors:

"The circular, 'Inspection of Cauliflower,' issued January 13, has been received. In paragraph 4, I note the last sentence reads: 'In general, however, inspectors should describe shipments from California as cauliflower and those from Oregon as broccoli.'

"As a matter of information, most of the shipments from southern California, including Ventura and Los Angeles counties, are of cauliflower, largely of the Pearl variety, of which there are three strains - early, medium and late. In the northern districts, located principally in the Colma and Hayward sections, a limited amount of cauliflower is produced during the fall months, mainly Snowball, with some plantings of Pearl. Most of this is harvested before the middle of December. From December 15 to February 15 most of the shipments from these districts are of white broccoli, which is pretty well cleaned up by the latter date. Beginning about the 1st of February, the later black broccoli begins to move, but this usually does not reach any great volume before the middle of the month. Consequently, most of the shipments after December 15, and practically all of those made from this district after January 1, are of broccoli."

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection

OFFICE NOTES:

R.C. Butner, Regional Supervisor in the Chicago Inspection office, made a short trip to St. Louis, Mo., and Fayetteville, Ark., last week, to confer with the St. Louis inspector and to investigate the prospects for shipping-point inspection work in Arkansas the coming season. He conferred with State officials at Fayetteville. It is expected that quite a number of cars of Bermuda onions will be shipped from the Ozark region this summer.

Robert Bier has been at various points on the Eastern Shore of Maryland this week, conferring with growers and shippers regarding possible inspection work this year. He will return to Washington at the end of this week, before starting to southern States in the interest of shipping-point inspection work.

Wm. E. Lewis is at Princess Anne, Md., today, and he and Mr. Bier are attending a conference of persons interested in the use of the Federal grades for cannery tomatoes. Last week, Mr. Lewis went to Philadelphia, to help re-inspect a car of Indiana yellow onions.

Visitors to the Washington office during the past week included C. W. Hauck, formerly of Mr. Samson's project, and Miss M.A. Blanche, clerk in the Philadelphia office of the Inspection Service. Mr. Hauck, who is now with the Buick Company, at Columbus, was east on business, and Miss Blanche was visiting the city over Washington's Birthday.

H.E. Rutland stopped in Washington on Wednesday, on his way back to Presque Isle, Me., from Williston, Fla. H.F. Willson, who substituted for Mr. Rutland at Presque Isle about 10 days, returns to the Philadelphia office.

In order to become familiar with inspection work in New York City, M.W. Baker, of the Pittsburgh staff, is spending about two weeks in that market. J.A. Marks, of the New York staff, is taking Mr. Baker's place temporarily in Pittsburgh.

The Official Record for February 17 published, as the first item on the editorial page, a full account of Mr. Patton's work with this Division and a statement of his death and burial.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 7, NO. 10
March 5, 1926.
(Contents Confidential)

1a. CROP AND MARKET NEWS BROADCASTING SCHEDULES.

Radio broadcasting schedules for crop and market news have now been mimeographed in pamphlet form, and copies can be obtained from the Division of Information in this Bureau. The schedule lists the States in alphabetical order and the cities in a similar order under the States. Time of broadcasting and an outline of the matter covered by the radio reports is also included. The pamphlet is prefaced with a review of the radio market news service since its beginning in 1920, this review being written by J. C. Gilbert. The schedule includes 93 stations, which were broadcasting agricultural reports on January 1, 1926.

2a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR FEBRUARY 27:

Page 133 - Special paragraphs on potatoes in the weekly review.
135 - New York Celery Season Reviewed, - by A. E. Prugh.
140 - Many Products Canned in California.
144 - Smaller Egyptian Onion Crop.
- The British Apple Market.
- Mexico Imports Fewer American Apples.
- Reduced Fig Crop in the Mediterranean Region.
- Foreign Almond Market Firm with Reduced Stocks.

3a. IN THE FEBRUARY SUPPLEMENT TO "CROPS AND MARKETS."

Page 34 - The Agricultural Outlook, 1926.
37 - Movement of early lettuce. (filler)
39 - Acreage and production of Florida celery. (filler)
40 - Acreage and production of Texas carrots. (filler)
45 - Comparative acreage of various truck crops. (filler)
- Acreage and production of beets in Texas. (filler)
46 - Total acreage of truck crops. (filler)
- Acreage and production of early spinach. (filler)
49 - 1926 Acreage of Bermuda onions, asperagus, and second-early cabbage, by States.
- Acreage and production of early lettuce, by States.
50 - Revised estimates for orange and grapefruit crops.
51 - Onion Production and Shipments to January 1, with Holdings on January 1 in the Main-Crop States.
- Recent Agricultural Publications.
54 - Dates and Scope of Crop Reports for Each Month in 1926.
62 - February 1 Cold Storage Holdings of apples, pears, and frozen and preserved fruits.
68 - Carload Shipments of F. & V. during January, by States.
69 - Carload Shipments of Citrus Fruits during January, by States.
- Acreage of strawberries, and condition of plants, by States.
- Early cabbage crops in Florida and Texas. (filler) (Page 119)

The following item is from California Inspectors' Notes No. 8, Feb. 19:-

4a. FRUIT INTERESTS DISCUSS STANDARDIZATION OF LUG BOXES.

The meeting called by the State Department of Agriculture Monday afternoon, February 15, for consideration of the standardization of fruit lug boxes, was attended by over one hundred people, including growers and representatives of the fruit-shipping organizations of the State, the package manufacturers and railroads.

Director G. H. Hecke, of the State Department of Agriculture, opened the meeting with a statement of the necessity of standardization of fruit packages, and expressed the hope that it might be possible for the various interests to agree upon a constructive program. W. F. Allewelt, Chief of the Bureau of Fruit and Vegetable Standardization, acted as chairman of the meeting.

The situation was considered very fully from all angles, including problems of packing, loading, transportation, damage to fruit and containers, and demand and sale in the receiving markets.

All of those present were agreed that entirely too many standard and non-standard packages are in use at the present time for the welfare of the fruit industry. A package manufacturer stated that, in addition to three standard sizes, his organization had been called upon to deliver twelve different sizes of irregular fruit lug boxes during the past season.

It was pointed out by the Department that, when non-standard packages are used for table fruit, they are required by law to be plainly marked in half-inch letters with the words "irregular container" but that such marking is not required in the case of fruits intended for by-products use, which includes the large shipments of juice grapes. It was also stated that it would not be possible to reduce the number of standard packages named in the California Fruit and Vegetable Standardization Act with less than two years' notice to the industry, and that any reduction would have to be made by the legislature, since such action cannot be taken by the Department.

It was generally agreed by those present that, since it was not possible to secure any agreement for a reduction in the number of standard packages now in use, no definite action should be taken at this time. However, it was felt that a careful consideration of the problem by the various interests might lead to some satisfactory solution at a future date.

5a. YAKIMA VALLEY FRUIT FACTS.

Through F. E. Bailey, of the Spokane office, we have received copy of an interesting booklet, entitled: "Fruit Production and Shipping Facts." This seems to have been written by Elias Nelson and F. F. Stubbs, and was published by the Stubbs Fruit & Storage Company, Yakima, Wash. Mr. Nelson is agricultural editor of the Yakima Morning Herald. Some of the data were obtained from our Spokane office. The booklet contains a history of Yakima Valley fruit industry, and is filled with statistics on trees, production and shipments of various fruits. Many of the tables are on the basis of varieties. A chapter on Standardization and Shipping-Point Inspection was prepared by W. L. Close, of the Yakima office. The last few pages of the booklet cover Yakima Valley potatoes. Some of the chapters are written in a semi-humorous style, and there are some good illustrations.

6a. THE CANNING INDUSTRY IN UTAH.

On February 25, Walter Kingsbury wrote the following letter from Salt Lake City:-

"I was interested in the figures given in recent numbers of the Division Letter, showing the magnitude of the canning industry for fruits and vegetables in California and Washington.

"With the exception of cherries, comparatively little fruit is canned in Utah, but certain vegetables are canned on an extensive scale, as shown by the following figures for this State, taken from the 1925 Crop Summary, by Mr. Frank Andrews, the Agricultural Statistician at Salt Lake City. Figures cover that portion of the crop grown exclusively for canning:

	ACRES		PRODUCTION (tons)		VALUE	
	1924	1925	1924	1925	1924	1925
TOMATOES	4,800	7,000	30,700	126,000	$307,000	$1,512,000
PEAS	10,360	10,750	12,400	17,200	716,000	964,000
STRING BEANS	360	380	1,000	1,000	50,000	55,000

"Considerable quantities of asparagus and kraut also are canned, while considerable amounts of currants, gooseberries, raspberries and strawberries are used in the manufacture of jams and jellies."

7a. THE AUSTRALASIAN APPLE CROP.

Special report, F. S. : A-46, "The Australasian Apple Crop," was released by the Foreign Marketing Section on March 1.

8a. REPORT OF POTATO STOCKS ON HAND JANUARY 1.

About a week ago, the Division of Crop and Livestock Estimates released in mimeographed form its annual report of merchantable potatoes on hand January 1 in the leading States. Comparative data are included for previous years. The substance of this report appears in the Weekly Market Review, dated March 2. It shows relatively light supplies available.

9a. SUMMARY OF NORTHWESTERN SHIPMENTS, YEAR 1925.

Mrs. L. B. Gerry, of the Spokane office, recently issued a 40-page mimeographed summary of the 1925 carlot shipments of 31 fruits and vegetables from stations in Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana. The totals by States are as follows: Washington 49,298; Idaho 25,407 cars; Oregon 10,875 cars, and Montana 1,388 cars, making a grand total of 86,968 for the year. Shipments are tabulated by products, by stations, and by months. Copies of the summary can be obtained from the Spokane office.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. ASPARAGUS ON NEW YORK MARKET.

A letter of March 2, from Mr. Stanton, of New York City, gives the following information regarding arrivals of early asparagus:-

"During the last week or 10 days, several small lots of asparagus from California have arrived in this market, shipped by express. As usual at the opening of the season, prices have been high. The stock ranged in size from very small to very large, packed in the usual crates, containing twelve two-pound bunches. Prices ranged from $18 to $50 per crate, according to size, and the quality of the stock generally was very good. Altogether there have been only about 100 packages, and, of course, such prices will be maintained only with continued extremely light receipts."

2b. MID-SEASON REVIEW OF FLORIDA CITRUS DEAL.

On February 27, R. H. Lamb, of the Orlando field station, issued a 4-page mid-season review of the Florida citrus fruit deal. Opening paragraphs discuss the trend of prices and the carlot movement. Shipments are then tabulated by weeks since early September, for two seasons. Two very good charts illustrate the relation between carlot shipments, the number of cars sold at auction, and the average auction prices by weeks, separate charts being given for oranges and grapefruit. Shipments for last season also are charted. Copies of this review doubtless can be obtained directly from Mr. Lamb, P.O. Box 188, Orlando, Fla.

3b. POTATO PLANTINGS ON EASTERN SHORE OF VIRGINIA.

In a letter of March 2, E. R. Biddle, of the Philadelphia office, included the following information on Eastern Shore potatoes:

"From different sources of information, I get a bit of news from the Eastern Shore of Virginia:

"Potato planting is getting under way, especially in the district below Cape Charles or the lower end of Northampton County. Some small lots were planted during the week ending February 20, with several of the leading growers around Kiptopeke well under way with this work last week. The start will be general this week.

"There are many reports as to probable plantings throughout the two Eastern Shore counties, but it appears safe to say that the acreage in Northampton County will be increased almost to the limit, while in Accomac County there will be a decided decrease. This decrease is due to several factors, but principally to the inroads of the Tuber Moth pest and the poor returns these folks have had the past few years.

"Indicative of the increased acreage in the lower end of the peninsula is a report from the station agent at Kiptopeke of an increase of 9 cars of fertilizer and 3 cars of seed potatoes received this year."

MAINE ships more potatoes to New York City than any other State. Of that market's average supply of 21,848 cars of potatoes, Maine has furnished in recent years an average of 6,736 cars, or 31%.

4b. HEAVIER VEGETABLE MOVEMENT FROM SOUTH TEXAS.

The following interesting facts were included in a press release of February 27, by J. A. Hunter, of the San Antonio office:-

"Eighty two cars of vegetables, 26 of them cabbage, two turnips, nine beets, eight onion plants, 11 lettuce, 15 mixed vegetables, seven carrots and four mustard, cleared the San Antonio gateway during the past week, according to compilations of the cooperative State-Federal market news service. Destinations ranged from Cameron, Texas, to New York City, while a major share of the movement was billed to St. Louis for further handling.

"In the increased cabbage movement, 19 cars of which were out of the Corpus Christi section, the opening of the commercial season is noted, for a week ago only three cars were billed through this point from Corpus Christi and Calallen, and prior to that time the scattered cars were too infrequent to consider. Cotulla, Carrizo Springs, and Laredo all participated in the week's clearance of this commodity, as they did in the through movement of turnips, beets, carrots, mixed vegetables, and mustard. The movement of 10 cars of lettuce from Asherton was significant, as was the clearance of eight cars of onion plants from a number of scattered points. Farmersville and Princeton, Texas; Shenandoah, Ia.; Fort Smith, Ark., and Cotter, Okla., received the onion plants, and St. Louis the four cars of mustard.

"An idea of the increased general vegetable movement from this section is seen in comparison with the clearance a week ago, which consisted of but one car of turnips, two of mixed vegetables, three of cabbage, two of lettuce and one each of beets and carrots, a total clearance of but 10 cars, compared with 82 this week."

5b. NEW YORK CITY A LARGE POTATO CONSUMER.

Under date of March 1, the New York office released a special mimeographed report on potato receipts in that market. Average annual arrivals during the last five years have been 21,848 cars, with Maine, New York and Virginia as principal contributors. A preliminary page of text, by W. H. Stanton, emphasizes the most interesting facts in this report. One of the tables shows the total shipments by months, compared with the New York receipts by months, during the five years. Similar data are then presented on the basis of leading shipping States, both for northern and for southern potatoes. This summary has been given wide distribution by Mr. Stanton, and copies are still available from the New York office.

6b. SOUTHERN DEALER PRAISES MARKET REPORTS.

The New York Office recently circularized its mailing list and received many complimentary replies on the service rendered. The one outstanding reply, however, is from a distributor in Atlanta, Georgia. It reads as follows:

"The writer has been in the fruit and produce trade 35 years. Your reports stabilize all markets, in that dealers know quantity goods being shipped, as well as grades and prices, both at shipping point and destination. You serve the producer, dealer and consumer. Uncle Sam is the largest and best man in the world, anyway. God Bless Old Glory."

RECORD OF SERVICES OVER LEASED WIRE DURING JANUARY, 1926.

Name of Market Serviced	Total Number of Services to Markets	Errors by Markets	Telegraphic Errors	Insufficient Information by Markets	Unclassified Services to Markets	Unnecessary Services	Unanswered Services	Voluntary Corrections **
Atlanta	12	3	5	-	4	-	-	-
Baltimore	10	7	-	-	3	a	-	8
Boston	20	6	4	2	7	0	1	5
Chicago	25	15	1	3	5	-	1	18
Cincinnati	15	5	3	-	7	-	-	-
Fort Worth*	13	4	2	-	5	-	2	2
Kansas City	12	5	6	a	1	-	-	1
Minneapolis	8	6	1	-	1	0	-	1
New York	28	4	3	8	12	-	1	13
Omaha	5	2	1	-	2	-	-	-
Philadelphia	28	5	12	3	7	-	1	4
Pittsburgh	8	3	2	1	2	-	-	-
St.Louis	18	2	11	-	5	-	-	2
Washington	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13
Jan.Total	202	67	51	17	61	-	6	67
Dec.Total	208	82	43	28	46	1	8	52

* Including Dallas. ** Not included in the Total.

RECORD OF SERVICES OVER LEASED WIRE DURING FEBRUARY, 1926.

Atlanta	9	1	5	1	2	-	-	1
Baltimore	15	8	2	1	4	-	-	2
Boston	17	8	1	4	4	-	-	6
Chicago	24	15	1	2	4	1	1	11
Cincinnati	7	2	1	1	2	1	-	1
Fort Worth*	14	5	3	1	4	-	1	1
Kansas City	12	3	4	3	2	-	-	3
Minneapolis	5	3	1	-	1	-	-	3
New York	43	14	8	7	14	-	-	17
Omaha	5	4	-	-	1	-	-	1
Philadelphia	25	12	5	2	6	-	-	1
Pittsburgh	9	6	2	-	1	-	-	7
St.Louis	13	4	3	1	5	-	-	8
Washington	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	4
Feb.Total	199	86	36	23	50	2	2	66
Jan.Total	202	67	51	17	61	-	6	67

*Including Dallas. ** Not included in the Total.

B. C. BOREE,
Marketing Specialist.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. GRADE OF CARS ON SHIPPING-POINT LISTS.

It should not be assumed that all cars, which are indicated on shipping-point lists as being up to grade, are necessarily No.1 or the highest grade. Because of the many different grades used in inspection and certification at shipping point, it is impossible to indicate opposite each up-to-grade car whether it is Extra Fancy, Fancy, No.1, No.2, or Choice, etc. If a car is listed on which inspection is requested in receiving market, a wire always should be sent to Washington, to determine what the shipping-point certificate shows. Various marks used before car numbers will be of some assistance in showing the nature of the shipping-point certificate but should not be depended upon, in case second inspections are requested. Get the information direct from Washington, or from the shipping-point headquarters, in case lists are sent from shipping points.

A case recently arose, in which there was confusion because the car was certified as containing both No.1 and No.2 stock. It is claimed that a report was given out that this car was "not all up to grade." Such cars should not be reported in this way. The car, in fact, did meet the requirements of the grades for which it was packed. Such a car should be described as "meeting the requirements of No.1 and No.2 grades, as marked."

2c. ITEMS DESIRED FOR CALIFORNIA NEWS LETTER.

The following statement and request has been received from Mr. Allewelt, of the Sacramento office:-

"The California Inspection Service is issuing a weekly news letter, for the benefit of inspectors throughout the State. It has been named: 'California Inspectors' Notes.' The aim of the paper is to add to the knowledge of the inspectors in every way, and it is felt that too much cannot be said regarding the arrival of California products in the eastern markets. A shipping-point inspector is continually called upon to decide whether or not a certain factor of quality or condition is important or relatively unimportant; whether it will affect carrying quality or not. All information we can secure on the arrival of our products in the East in regard to condition, loading and bracing, pack, trade preferences, and many other points will materially strengthen the inspectors' judgment and add to the usefulness and reliability of the service as a whole.

"Such information, sent to W. F. Allewelt, Chief, Bureau of Fruit and Vegetable Standardization, State Department of Agriculture, Sacramento, California, will be gratefully received. We would also appreciate any suggestions or information which you personally, or the Washington office, might send us at any time."

2½c. REQUESTS FOR NEW YORK STATE APPLE GRADING LAW PAMPHLET.

All inspection offices in the eastern and central part of the country, which have not received the July, 1925, New York State Apple Grading Law and Its Applications, are requested to advise this office, so that copies can be sent.

The next five items are from California Inspectors' Notes No. 9, Feb. 26:-

3c. NEW LETTUCE CRATE IN IMPERIAL VALLEY.

A sudden market advance to a $2.65 top has caused several of the Imperial Valley lettuce shippers to go back to abandoned fields and salvage smaller heads, according to word just received from Sam Preston. Many crates of 6-dozens and 75's are now being shipped, and the newest development is a cut-down crate, 1½ inches shorter and in some cases 3/4 to 1 inch narrower than the standard lettuce crate. In these, the smaller sizes will pack 5-dozen and this pack is said to bring more money in the larger California markets than a 6-dozen pack in a standard crate. As these crates are marked: "Specially Contructed Irregular Container," the requirements of the Standardization Act are fully complied with. Mr. Preston's letter continues:

"The following table shows the percentages that have been published in the Daily Market Reports during the past several days, Feb. 14th to 22nd inclusive:

Date of Inspections	U.S.Grade No. 1	80-85% No. 1 Quality	Below 80% No. 1 Quality
Feb. 14	0 per cent	28 per cent	72 per cent
15	21 " "	39 " "	40 " "
16	26 * "	33 " "	39 " "
17	19 " "	44 " "	37 " "
18	26 " "	47 " "	27 " "
19	15 " "	32 " "	53 " "
20	7 " "	61 " "	32 " "
21	17 " "	52 " "	31 " "
22	8 " "	55 " "	37 " "

* One car graded Fancy, -2nd Fancy Grade for season to date.

"During this period, we inspected 228 cars, or about 30% of the total shipments for these dates."

The inspection deal at present is going along quietly and heavy movements are not to be expected until after March 5.

4c. ITALIAN VERSION OF GRADES TO AID COLMA BROCCOLI GROWERS.

U. S. Grades for cauliflower and cabbage are now being printed in Italian as a result of a meeting of the Colma vegetable growers and shippers, which was held last week to explain in detail the uses and value of the U. S. grades and certification. The translations into the "mother-tongue" are expected to aid local packers to meet the requirements of the grades. Practically all the shipments from Colma are being certified. The peak is expected about next week. The main defect noted is discolored heads, caused by weather conditions.

The San Francisco crew inspected one car of apples and 37 cars of broccoli, cabbage and other vegetables during the week ending February 13. The following week 45 cars were inspected. Of 25 cars of broccoli, 10 graded U. S. 1, and out of 17 cars of cabbage, 7 graded U. S. No. 1.

5c. HAYWARD OFFICE TAKES IN NEW FIELDS.

Between 75 and 100 cars of cauliflower are to be shipped from the district around Walnut Creek, Lafayette and Oakley, beginning the 1st of March. Mr. Nutting and Mr. Wahlberg will handle this from the Hayward office.

6c. "SWEET TASTE" OF COLD-STORAGE POTATOES.

This discussion on potato storage answers a question which is apt to pop up before any inspector, doing market or warehouse work:

Low storage temperatures have been determined as the cause of complaints that a certain lot of potatoes had a "sweetish taste," a sample of the potatoes having just been examined by J. E. Currey, Potato Specialist at Sacramento.

The country dealer, who sent in the potatoes, stated that the sample came from a lot which had been held in cold storage. His customers complained that, when cooked, these potatoes tasted sweet. Potatoes from the same original shipment, but which had been kept only in common storage, had been sold continually, he said, without any complaint of "sweetish taste."

The sample appeared normal in every respect, except that cracks were scattered over the surface of the tubers, resembling punctures made with a thumb-nail. These are caused by a sudden change from low storage temperatures to the warmer temperatures outside.

Potatoes stored at low temperatures (29° to 34° F.) for a month or more, are apt to turn sweet. The respiration of the tuber, which ordinarily oxidizes the sugars into starch, is retarded by the cold, lowering the reversion of sugars in starch. This results in a decrease of starch and an increase of sugars, which frequently may go as high as 2.2%, compared to a normal of 0.5%.

When placed in a higher temperature, the excess of sugars becomes oxidized by the increased respiration and the "sweetish taste" disappears after a time.

The turning sweet of potatoes has often been termed "chilling" and attributed to slight freezing injury. It is simply due, however, to long storage at low temperatures, which are above the point of actual freezing damage, and therefore does not indicate that the potatoes actually have been frozen. They were merely dangerously close to that point.

7c. STANDARDIZATION CONDITIONS GOOD IN SAN JOAQUIN MARKETS.

With the exception of some Mexican tomatoes and northwestern apples, the fruit and vegetables in markets of the San Joaquin Valley were found to be in good condition by Harold Poulsen, who just returned from there, after working with the various Horticultural Commissioners.

Several shipments of Mexican tomatoes were rejected because of a large percentage of over-ripe and decayed stock, and some containers also were deceptively packed. Many Mexican shippers are not packing in accordance with the California law, and these containers have to be repacked upon arrival.

Many lots of apples were rejected because of decay, storage scald and improper markings. Violations commonly found were the markings "4th" and "cookers." Such containers must be marked "Unclassified" in order to satisfy the law, which states that all apples sold or offered for sale in California must be marked with one of the four California grades, "Extra Fancy," "Fancy," "C Grade," or "Unclassified."

8c. REVISED GRADES FOR CANNERY TOMATOES.

With this D.L., each inspector will receive a copy of the revised grades for cannery tomatoes. It is expected that these grades may be used by canneries on the Eastern Shore of Maryland this season.

The next two items are from Shipping-Point Inspectors' Letter No. 19, published by F. E. Bailey on Feb. 23 for Washington and Oregon men:

9c. UMPQUA VALLEY BROCCOLI.

"The most favorable season in seven years," is the way R. M. Cooley, one of the older growers in the Umpqua Valley, commented on the present season in its relation to the broccoli crop. It now appears that the Umpqua Valley this year may realize its dream of shipping nearly 1,000 cars of this product. This is the first season in several years that freezing injury has not been a serious factor. This year, growers do not have to contend with slime in the flower or wrapper leaves, and stump decay resulting from freezing injury occurring one or two months prior to the start of the harvest.

Weather conditions having been quite favorable throughout the winter, it was expected that the harvest would start with a rush during the week beginning February 15, but a series of cool nights, starting about that time and continuing a week or more, checked the development of the heads, so that shipments were comparatively light during that period. There is in the field at the present time a considerable percentage of heads, which need but 48 hours of warm temperature to bring them to proper size for cutting. This situation makes it necessary for growers, shippers, and all concerned in the movement of this crop, to have their crews practically fully manned and held in readiness for a rise in temperature. Broccoli, like other cauliflower, is at its prime for cutting for about one day. A head which is of No. 1 quality today, but allowed to remain in the field until tomorrow, will often become a No. 2 head. This makes it imperative to have cutting and packing kept up to date. One grower, who uses two more men for cutting than do any of his neighbors with a similar acreage, states that he makes money by having the extra help available, because he is able to cut less than 5% No. 2 heads, while some of his neighbors often cut as high as 20% second-grade stock.

Heard in a Roseburg hotel dining-room:

Guest: "Who is that group at the large table? (indicating a group of dealers, brokers, railroad men, and others in town for the broccoli movement)

Waiter: "Oh, that's the broccoli crowd."

Guest: "Well, a stranger would never take them to be Italians."

10c. ANNUAL REPORT OF SEATTLE OFFICE.

P. S. Darlington, District Horticultural Inspector for King County, Washington, recently submitted his annual report to Supervisor of Horticulture, J. I. Griner. Among other information, Mr. Darlington shows that there are about 200 acres of sour cherries in the county, most of which are just coming into bearing and which will result in a heavy increase in the production of this fruit within the next two or three years. This crop goes mostly to canneries. There are also 500 acres of strawberries, 250 acres of blackberries, 350 acres of raspberries, 400 acres of loganberries, 40 acres of goosberries, and 25 acres of currants in the county, in addition to 65,000 apple trees and 35,000 pear trees. Most of these tree fruits are consumed locally.

An interesting feature of Mr. Darlington's report is his statement of the development of certified inspection work. In the year 1922, the first 32 certificates were written in King County. In 1923, about 60 certificates were written, and in 1924 there were 420. In 1925, about 1,565 cooperative shipping-point certificates were written, besides 93 State receiving-point certificates, making a total of 1,658 for that year.

11c. POTATO SITUATION IN IDAHO.

Under date of February 26, L. G. Schultz sent the following interesting notes on the Idaho potato deal:-

"I returned yesterday from the east side of the State, where I spent the past week, visiting with the inspectors and trade. While there, I also made a careful survey of the quantity of potatoes left for shipment and was surprised to find that there are between 3,500 and 4,000 cars to move after March 1. The exact amount will depend, of course, upon the market from now on, as well as upon the demand for low-grade stock.

"There has been an unusually large tonnage of poor-quality potatoes shipped this year, and it has done our reputation no good, as many cars of this stuff have been sent out in branded bags. The trade calls it '2s,' but a large percentage would not make a U.S. No. 2 grade, if it were inspected. I presume the demand for it grows out of the high price for good stock, and one can't blame the public for trying to get potatoes as cheaply as possible. Some of the cars I saw, however, were wet and slimy and foul-smelling, and fit only for hogs. This stock, no doubt, goes to a low class of trade, but I can hardly understand how it holds up long enough to get into consumption.

"The potatoes in the territory north of Pocatello are not holding up as well as they should. In practically all cases, where growth knobs have been broken off or under cuts, decay has started, and in many cases the decay extends deep into the tuber. This, no doubt, is due to the damp condition of much of the stock, as well as to the unusually mild winter we have had. The October freeze had its effect, also, for the potatoes in the Burley-Rupert and Twin Falls territory are keeping much better than in the upper country.

"Inspectors will be busy this year until May 1 in all of the eastern districts, for it will be impossible to move before that date the large amount left on hand.

"Apples are practically all out, with the exception of 50 or 60 cars in cold storage at Payette. The men who have been handling the fruit inspection work will now go on the orchard inspection work, as spraying has already been started in some districts."

Editor's Note: The first paragraph of this letter is of special interest in connection with the recently-issued report of potato stocks on hand January 1. That report indicates 4,402,000 bushels, or 7,337 carloads of 600 bushels each, remaining for sale in Idaho on January 1. Approximately 3,600 cars were shipped during January and February, which would leave 3,737 cars to come after March 1, provided every available merchantable potato were shipped. Last spring, only 80% of the January 1 supply was shipped, and it will be interesting to see what percentage of the present stocks is marketed this year.

12c. EXPERIMENTAL SHIPMENT [illegible]RG LETTUCE.

W. H. Stanton, of the [illegible]rk market news office, wrote on March 2:

"In my lettuce wire [illegible]erday, I quoted some poor condition, unwrapped and uniced Calif[illegible]ceberg, at $3 for 4-dozen and $2 for 5-dozen crates. This repres[illegible] car of lettuce from Brawley, California, shipped in a refrigerated [illegible]or experimental purposes. There was no ice in any of the crates and [illegible]per. As the quotations indicate, it was a very unsuccessful expe[illegible]t. The stock was sent to a firm here in New York, controlling some o[illegible]e shipments of Iceberg from California, and, inasmuch as it was their own stock, they are the only losers.

13c. VIRGINIA INSPECTION SERVICE SHOWS GOOD PROGRESS.

More than twice as many Federal-State inspection certificates were issued on carlot fruit and vegetable shipments from Virginia during the calendar year 1925 than were issued during the similar period of 1924, according to J. F. Meek, Director of the Division of Markets. This type of inspection is purely a voluntary service and, through the cooperation of Federal and State agencies, it is made available to interested Virginia shippers, producers and associations that arrange for such service in sufficient time for capable inspectors to be secured or trained for such work. There being no appropriation in Virginia for this particular line of work, it has been necessary for applicants to pre-finance such service by the advance payment of a part of the fee.

The Federal-State carlot inspection service has been available in Virginia since July, 1922, and has developed very rapidly during the last two years. In addition, the Division of Markets has supplied at cost to the progressive orchardist an apple inspection service in the orchard at time of packing. This service was initiated in the fall of 1922 in the Winchester section. The volume was more than doubled in 1923. The desirability of such a service was demonstrated so clearly that in 1924 there was a demand from almost every commercial apple producing county in the State for this work.

The inspection work is provided in the several communities as nearly as possible on the basis of actual cost. In most instances the applicants or shippers desiring the service advance sufficient moneys to the Division of Markets to inaugurate the work and then the weekly payments of the fees on the inspections actually made permit the continuance of the service throughout the shipping season. All funds received by the Division of Markets are deposited in the State treasury as a special inspection fund and paid out only on warrants drawn on the State Auditor and approved by the Commissioner of Agriculture. On most commodities the inspection fee has been $4 a carlot, but, where only a small number of cars are to move and the service is especially desired by applicants, it is provided even though the cost is higher.

F. Earl Parsons has supervised this service and reports that many growers and shippers who have made use of the inspection service in the past have already signified their intention of again using the service during the 1926 season, as the number of complaints, misunderstandings and rejections have been decreased so extensively as to more than make up for the cost of shipping-point inspection.

14c. MISSOURI ASSOCIATION HANDLES TOMATOES.

Approximately 40 cars of tomatoes were shipped in the summer of 1925 by the St. Joseph Tomato Growers' Association, St. Joseph, Mo., in its second year of operation. For four weeks prior to August 5, the sales averaged $1,000 a day. The West and Northwest proved to be the best markets, and shipments went to Denver, Omaha, Des Moines, and to points in South Dakota and Wyoming.

The tomatoes were marketed in baskets holding 18 to 20 pounds. Each grower graded and packed his own tomatoes and delivered them in St. Joseph. There they were inspected by an official of the association and, if any evidences of poor quality or poor packing were found, the tomatoes were rejected or repacked and the extra expense charged to the grower. The U. S. grades were used and the inspection was rigid.

15c. REPORTING APPEAL INSPECTIONS TO WASHINGTON. (Important)

The record of reversals on appeal inspections since the beginning of this fiscal year has been much better than during either of the last two years. While this record is encouraging, we must not be satisfied until we are positive that there can be no ground for criticising the way in which any appeal inspection has been handled. We must be sure, also, that every effort has been made to acquaint the interested parties with the full facts in connection with each case. To this end, it is believed best that all appeal inspections, on which reversals seem necessary, be reported to Washington for approval before the appeal certificate is issued and before the results of the appeal inspection are given to the interested parties. It will not be necessary to report to Washington the following kinds of second inspections:- condition inspections, confirmation inspections, inspections covering factors not covered by the original certificate, and inspections on parts of lots which cannot be handled as appeal inspections because the whole lot is not available. Only appeal inspections which reverse original certificates need be so reported.

In wiring this information to Washington, the percentage and character of defects on which the reversal is based should be given, together with such other information as will throw any light upon the case in question.

Offices which use leased wires should always inquire, before sending wires of this character, whether they will be transmitted to Washington at once. If there is going to be any appreciable delay, Western Union should be used, or, in case of great urgency, offices no farther from Washington than Pittsburgh should use long-distance telephone, if the wires are congested. Such wires will be given preference over all other business in the Washington office, and if, for any reason, the case cannot be studied and approval forwarded within a half hour after the receipt of wire, the field office will be instructed to proceed with the reversal in accordance with best judgment. Replies will be sent on the same day to all wires received before 4:30. If they reach the Washington office after that hour, they will be given first consideration in the morning. There should be no serious delay, therefore, in handling cases of this kind.

The office making the reinspection will be expected to send out the usual notices of appeal inspection to the shipping-point supervisor and to the original applicant. The Washington office will take up with the shipping-point inspector, through his supervisor, the reasons for the reversal and will direct the shipping-point supervisor to take whatever action seems advisable to correct any errors which have been shown by the appeal inspection.

The reasons for the above procedure are: First, the necessity for unified action in handling appeal inspections in receiving markets and for proper interpretation and application of grades in these important cases, the wrong decisions of which may throw heavy losses on the wrong party. It is not the intention of the Washington office to question the percentages of defects reported by receiving-point inspectors, and approval of reversals will be given in the great majority of cases. The greater object is to ensure proper handling of the unusual cases, which have caused trouble between the two branches of our service in the past. Second, this action will keep the Washington office properly informed of errors in work at shipping points and will enable the office to take necessary steps through shipping-point supervisors for correcting such errors on the part of shipping-point inspectors or having their licenses cancelled.

This change in policy in handling reversals on appeal inspections will be effective at once.

16c. FLORIDA SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTIONS.

The following inspections were made at Florida shipping points during the period February 1 to 15:

- F R U I T S -

Section	Grapefruit	Oranges	Tangerines	Mixed Citrus	Total
Clermont	1	5	0	4	10
Groveland	5	1	0	1	7
Lakeland	4	1	0	4	9
Leesburg	4	2	0	3	9
Mt. Dora	7	9	1	8	25
Manatee	0	0	0	0	0
Tavares	1	4	1	10	16
Umatilla	2	10	40	13	25
Totals	24	32	2	43	101
Total to January 31	209	313	41	157	720
	233	345	43	200	821

- V E G E T A B L E S -

Section	Colony	Section	Colony
Manatee	2	Palmetto	56
Matoaka	14	Sanford	50
Oneco	4	Total	128
Oviedo	2	Total to January 31	78
			206

TOTAL INSPECTIONS OF FRUITS AND VEGETABLES TO FEBRUARY 15 ----------1,027

17c. APPEAL INSPECTIONS IN MARKETS WHERE NO INSPECTOR IS LOCATED.

Occasionally the inspector who is assigned to "out of town" inspections finds, upon arrival, that the car was inspected at shipping point, and the applicant insists on an appeal inspection.

In such case, the inspector should wire full particulars to the regional supervisor or to the Washington office and remain in the market in question until reply is received. The case may be such as to permit the appeal inspection to be made by a single inspector. If not, another inspector will be assigned or the applicant will be advised that it is impossible to make appeal inspection and that condition report only can be issued. Occasional cases will be found, where it may not be deemed necessary for the inspector to remain to make joint examination with the second man assigned to the work. This is preferable, however, and will always be done, unless it involves too great a loss of time.

F.G.ADAMS,
Specialist in Inspection

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Stillwell left Washington last Sunday evening, to confer with Federal and State representatives of the news service in eastern sections. He spent the first three days of this week at Rochester and nearby points. Yesterday, he was in New York City, and before returning to Washington he expects to visit the offices at Newark, Philadelphia and possibly Baltimore.

After slightly over two years' service in the Washington office, first with the Domestic Wool Section and later with the Market News Project, Miss Opal V. Yeoman leaves at the end of this week to fill a vacancy in our Los Angeles office. She will stop at her home in Wyoming a few days en route, reporting for duty in Los Angeles on March 15. Mrs. C. R. Maxwell is the member of the Los Angeles staff who has resigned, effective March 10.

A new stencil-cutter, appointed to Mr. Clay's section, is Mrs. Edith L. Feathers, formerly of the Seed Grain Loan Office.

Robert Bier, who is now on his southern trip in the interest of the shipping-point inspection service, will include Florida and Louisiana in his itinerary. He will not go to Texas, as announced in the D.L. for February 19.

W. F. Allewelt, of the Sacramento office, attended the California Canners' Convention, at Del Monte, on February 26, to discuss the new State canning law for fruits.

W. T. Harmon, who was assisting with the lettuce inspection work in the Imperial Valley, has been at his home at Denair, Calif., the past week or more, taking treatments to ward off a threatened attack of appendicitis.

There have been no material changes in the schedule of field stations of the Market News Service during the past week. R. H. Shoemaker advised from Grand Rapids that he probably will continue publishing reports on onions until March 20. Most of the Michigan crop will be moved by that time. J.D. Evers advised from Brownsville, Texas, that the first spring shipment of potatoes is expected to roll by March 25, and he will begin publishing market reports on that crop about March 29, instead of the 15th.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
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DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 7, NO. 11
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(Contents Confidential)

1a. SPECIAL CONFERENCE ON APPLE GRADES.

Representatives from eastern apple States are meeting in our Bureau conference room today, to discuss with Fruit and Vegetable Division men the grading of barreled apples. Special consideration will be given to the proposed Federal grades for early apples and to grades for export apples. The present grades for barreled apples also will be studied carefully, with a view to possible revision, if changes seem necessary. Among those who have come to Washington for this meeting are:

H. S. Duncan, Chief Inspector,
New York Dept. of Farms and Markets, Rochester, N.Y.
B. D. VanBuren, Asst. Director, Bureau of Plant Industry,
New York Dept. of Farms and Markets, Albany, N.Y.
W. C. Hackleman, Regional Supervisor,
Federal Inspection Service, New York City office.
Kenneth Hankinson, Marketing Specialist,
New Jersey Bureau of Markets, Trenton, N.J.
Porter R. Taylor, Director,
Pennsylvania Bureau of Markets, Harrisburg, Pa.
L. F. Derickson, Director,
Delaware Bureau of Markets, Dover, Del.
I. B. Bomberger, Chief,
Maryland Dept. of Markets, College Park, Md.
S. B. Shaw, Chief Inspector and Marketing Specialist,
Maryland Dept. of Markets, College Park, Md.
F. Earl Parsons, Standardization and Inspection Specialist,
Virginia Division of Markets, Richmond, Va.
OTHERS, who were expected for this conference, are: F. A. Motz, Extension Horticulturist, Virginia; N. T. Frame, Director of Extension Work, West Virginia; and H. B. Davis, West Virginia Bureau of Marketing; also D. M. James, of the Harrisburg office.

2a. ADDITIONAL REPORTS OF FOREIGN MARKETS:

The Foreign Marketing Section has recently issued the following mimeographed reports: F.S.:O-18, "New Crop Egyptian Onions En Route." F.S.:F-15, "British and German Fruit Imports in January." F.S.:C-19, "United States a Growing Importer of Onions." F.S.:A-47, "British Market Disappointing in January and February," by Edwin Smith.

3a. BRIGHT PROSPECTS FOR LOUISIANA STRAWBERRIES.

A wire from Lee R. Miller advises that prospects for the Louisiana strawberry deal were never better. Shipments may begin about March 20, and possibly 2,000 to 2,500 cars will be shipped. (Page 135)

4a. CROP CONDITIONS ALONG THE CALIFORNIA COAST:

It will be remembered that C. J. Hansen, of theSan Francisco office, went to Los Angeles recently, to attend a meeting of the California Development Association. He left San Francisco on February 19, making several stops along the way, visiting shippers and talking with growers in the field. In a letter of March 1, he gave the following report of conditions along the Coast Route:-

"I am giving you below, the outlook on various commodities as I found them, enroute to and returning from Los Angeles:

"LETTUCE- In the Salinas and Watsonville districts, there are approximately 1,500 acres of lettuce already planted and 3,500 yet to plant. In the Guadalupe and San Luis Obispo districts, there is expected to be a total of 4,500 acres, of which 3,000 are already planted. The growing season for lettuce has been very favorable, in so far as moisture is concerned. California has had ample rainfall and the lettuce planted on the hillsides shows some ill effects of washing. Some of the plants have been washed out, while the roots of others have been left almost bare, and these spots probably will have to be replanted to produce profitably.

"CAULIFLOWER- California this year has a very large acreage in cauliflower and the deal does not look at all profitable, especially with the warmer weather arriving. In the Santa Maria and Guadalupe districts, there is expected to be more than 1,000 acres, as against 300 last year. Growers in this section are being paid 50¢ per crate in the field. The quality is very good and the heads of acceptable size. Oxnard and Ventura districts are expected to ship from 300 to 350 cars. The peak of these shipments probably will come between the middle and last of March.

"PEAS- The pea acreage in San Luis Obispo is estimated from 3,000 to 3,200 acres, which is divided as follows: Pismo 1,000; Morro 2,000; and Arroyo Grande 200. The peas show a heavy bloom in all districts, but those planted on the hillsides have suffered somewhat the same as lettuce, on account of the heavy rainfall. This is especially true on the hills above Pismo Beach. At Gonzales and King City, there are around 2,500 acres of peas. However, these are grown primarily for seed purposes and none will be shipped fresh. Hayward, this year, will have approximately 2,200 acres.

"CARROTS- It is expected that, from Santa Maria to Oxnard, there will be 50 to 75 cars of bunched carrots shipped, the market permitting. They were receiving $2.00 per crate for bunched stock, holding five-dozen bunches.

"CELERY- There is a new acreage of celery this year at Santa Maria, which is controlled primarily by the C. B. Williams Company, of San Francisco. It is expected that the total shipments will amount to around 100 cars.

"The San Joaquin Valley still shows some effects of the disastrous grape deal, just past. Many of the grapevines as yet have not been pruned and one can see large clusters of dried grapes, still hanging on the vines. These are mostly Emperors, but there are also quite a few Muscats and some grapes of other varieties."

FOLLOW-UP LETTERS have now been sent to members of the four important trade organizations, regarding the proposed Standard Trading Rules. More details concerning this canvass of the trade will appear in next week's D.L.

5a. APPLE HOLDINGS IN PACIFIC NORTHWEST.

According to reports of the Yakima Valley Traffic and Credit Association, received through Mrs. L. B. Berry, of our Spokane office, about 5,400 cars of apples remained in the Yakima and Wenatchee districts on March 1, as against 2,530 a year ago and about 3,570 in 1924. Detailed figures follow:-

Apple Holdings on March 1 in Yakima and Wenatchee Districts.

	1923	1924	1925	1926
YAKIMA,..Cold Storage.....	1,518	2,159	1,786	3,700
Common Storage.....	350	351	27	141
Total.....	1,868	2,510	1,813	3,841
WENATCHEE, Cold Storage.....	429	641	659	1,261
Common Storage	394	395	57	287
Total.....	823	1,036	716	1,548
TOTAL for both districts	2,691	3,566	2,529	5,389

6a. HEAVY SHIPMENTS FROM MEXICAN WEST COAST.

Shipments of truck crops from the West Coast of Mexico, from the opening of the 1925-26 season in December to the end of January, amounted to 922 carloads, compared with 319 carloads in the corresponding period last season, according to Consul Henry C. A. Dahm at Nogales, Sonora. By February 6 total shipments had increased to 1,122 carloads, but no comparable figure is available for last year:

Shipments of Truck Crops from Mexican West Coast.

Crop	December to January 31		December to February 6,
	1924-25	1925-26	1925-26
	Carloads.	Carloads	Carloads
Tomatoes	278	587	703
Green peppers	12	67	77
Green peas	16	209	262
Lettuce	0	4	5
Mixed vegetables	9	55	75
Total	319	922	1,122

7a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR MARCH 6:

Page 149 - Inspection Available on Extracted Honey.
- Special paragraphs on potatoes in the weekly review.
150 - Shipping-Point Inspections in Idaho.
151 - Philadelphia unloads during 1925. (filler)
- Florida Citrus Prices High, - based on report by R. H. Lamb.
- Record of Shipping-Point Inspections.
160 - British Apple Market Slow.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. PROSPECTIVE SHIPMENTS OF FLORIDA CITRUS FRUITS.

According to a letter of March 6 from R. H. Lamb, of the Orlando office, local factors in Florida now estimate the Valencia orange crop considerably lower than at first expected. The usual estimate had been around 5,000 cars, or fully 1,000 more than last year. Recent figures, however, indicate the possibility of only 1,193,000 boxes of this variety, or only about 3,300 carloads of 360 boxes each. This would limit the shipments to an average of less than 60 cars daily during a 60-day marketing period, which should return good prices to Florida growers.

The recent increase in shipments would seem to indicate there is more grapefruit in Florida than was estimated on February 1. The apparent increase, however, may be due to the preponderance of large sizes, particularly 36's and 46's. The Fruitmen's Club recommended that grapefruit shipments should not exceed 75 cars daily for the next two or three weeks. Many growers and shippers are now icing grapefruit cars, to prevent decay in transit. Recommendations were made locally that orange shipments not exceed 100 cars daily, and the average movement probably will be restricted to that volume.

In California, it is estimated by the Fruit Growers' Exchange that a 25,000-car Valencia crop and 9,500 cars of Navels and miscellaneous varieties remained to be shipped after March 1. On that basis, it would be necessary for California to ship 1,300 to 1,400 cars weekly, to market the entire crop.

2 b. RIO GRANDE VALLEY VEGETABLE MOVEMENT

In a letter of March 6, from the field station at Brownsville, J. D. Evers gave the following information about prospective movement:-

"Latest information on the movement of potatoes indicates that the first car will roll out of the Valley between March 25 and April 1. Estimates made by shippers place the acreage at 6,000 and the probable movement at 800 to 900 cars. The plants are in excellent condition, while some of the tubers which I have seen are about 1¼ inches in diameter. Planting of potatoes began about January 6 and ended February 20. Owing to the heavy rains up to February 1 and the high price of seed, the plantings probably are somewhat lighter and were made much later than those of last year. Both growers and shippers are looking forward to what they hope will be a very successful season.

"String beans will start moving April 1 and continue through May. A total of 150 cars is expected to be shipped out of the Valley. According to local sources, the plants do not appear to be in a very healthy condition, due perhaps to the general lack of rain during the month of February. First plantings of string beans were made about January 15 and continued up to about February 24."

2½b. ALABAMA POTATO DEAL SUMMARIZED.

W. H. Mosier is author of the Summary of Alabama Potato Deal, Season of 1925, just released. The opening paragraphs of this report include a brief history of the potato, followed by a complete description of the Alabama producing section. One of the tables shows freight rates from Mobile to 18 markets.

3b. THE SOUTH TEXAS ONION AND SPINACH DEALS.

The following interesting paragraphs are quoted from a letter of March 2, written by J. A. Hunter, of the San Antonio office:-

"Looks to me as if Texas onions will be much earlier than expected. There is even talk of shipments during the closing weeks of this month, especially from the Raymondville section. We have had lots of sunshine lately and no rain. Most of the trade are hoping against hope on the onion outlook this season. They fear a nasty deal, especially with the Coachella Valley due to come in so early this season. One of the New York boys, who was in my office yesterday on his return to South Texas from California, said he looked for first shipments from that section during the opening days of April, and he went rather strong on his ideas of both prospective tonnage and quality. Roy Campbell has put out a Texas estimate of 5,000 cars. They have things sewed up pretty tight in an effort to control the movement and keep the market from going to pieces and they may really accomplish things, especially since they are going into the deal with their eyes open and no foolish expectations.

"Looks like spinach markets are shot, and all my friends who grew acreage, hoping for a 'field demand', have been after me to find them someone who would either guarantee them packing charges or take it off their hands 'as is'. Have sent a number of wires, feeling out various buyers at the request of the Department of Agriculture, which was anxious to serve them, but the come-back is very unsatisfactory. Looks to me like the deal will be a thing of the past by the middle of this month, but, if it is, there will be an awful lot of good spinach to plow under, for, while the Upper Counties are due to clean up within the next few days on their first crop, there are good late acreages at both Eagle Pass and Asherton and there is spinach to burn at San Marcos, Austin and Wharton, most of it just in full maturity. Looks like, with South Carolina and Virginia taking the last, and California and Arizona the best, there isn't much left. But Texas operators have little to complain of, for it has been a mighty good deal for them this year, all things considered."

4b. OUTLINE OF NEW YORK MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

L. Deane Phillips, Director of the New York State Bureau of Markets, at Albany, has issued a 5-page mimeographed circular, outlining all of the market news work done throughout the State under auspices of the Dept. of Farms and Markets and in cooperation with this Bureau. It shows the kind and the scope of reports issued in New York City, Buffalo, Rochester, Albany, and from the lettuce field-station at Wallington. A list of our eastern market stations also is included.

5b. PROGRAM AT ROCHESTER AFTER MARCH 20:

After March 20, when A. E. Prugh expects to leave Rochester, the work there will be carried on by the New York Dept. of Farms and Markets, in cooperation with this Bureau. H. S. Duncan, of the State office in Rochester, will be in charge, assisted by A. L. Thomas, who will direct and handle the detailed work, including the reception of the radio reports. The present service will be somewhat curtailed, but reports on apples, potatoes, onions and carrots will be continued.

6b. MORE NEWS ABOUT TEXAS ONION DEAL:

Below is quoted part of an article, which was published in the Houston Chronicle of February 27. The clipping was received through J. D. Byers:-

"The movement of the Bermuda onion crop from the Laredo district by special trainloads is expected to begin within the next 30 days, and the present indications are that from 1,500 to 2,000 carloads will be handled out of Laredo. After the first 1,000 carloads of Bermuda onions are shipped, the shipments will be taken over by a committee appointed by the onion growers at a recent meeting held in Laredo, and the prorating of daily shipments among the various growers will restrict the marketing to that amount where it will hold up prices and reap good returns to the growers for their crop. The committee in each onion growing community, represented in the conference held at Laredo, will abide by the agreement entered into; so, there is no possibility of any over-supplying of the onion markets and a demoralization of prices resulting during the coming shipping season."

7b. CALIFORNIA ASPARAGUS SUMMARY.

C. J. Hanson and C. W. Holmes, of the San Francisco office, are joint authors of a mimeographed summary of the California Fresh Asparagus Deal, Season of 1925, which has just been released. This is timely, in view of the fact that express shipments of the 1926 crop are already moving from California. The summary is illustrated with a picture of a bunch of asparagus on the front cover, and one of the inside pages carries a good map of the Delta region, showing the numerous islands. This section has the largest asparagus acreage in the world. The report includes interesting statements regarding the seeding and cultivation of asparagus, the varieties grown, and the canning of this crop. The market season for fresh asparagus is then discussed. Freight rates are given from California to 10 leading markets, and there is a statement as to the pack of canned asparagus and the exports of this product. Copies of this summary can be obtained from the San Francisco office, Room 1, Ferry Bldg.

8b. CINCINNATI AS A FRUIT AND VEGETABLE CENTER.

J. G. Scott, of the Cincinnati office, has just issued a very interesting mimeographed booklet, entitled "Cincinnati as a Fruit and Vegetable Market and Distribution Center." The front cover carries a map of Ohio and the five or six States surrounding Ohio, showing Cincinnati as the center of an important territory. This map was furnished through courtesy of the Chamber of Commerce. The report itself contains a full description of Cincinnati and its strategic position, commercially. Especially is the railroad service emphasized. Homegrown produce, - a large factor in the market, - is discussed at length, as are the shipped-in products. A complete set of tables shows the 1925 unloads of 58 products, and Cincinnati jobbing prices are given by months for five years. The Market News Service and Inspection Service are explained, as well as the Standardization work. Copies of this booklet can be had from Mr. Scott.

E. W. STILLWELL,
Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

STATIONS	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably will close
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	Mrs. L.B. Gerry	Apples	Aug. 24	Mar. 27
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO 230 Federal Bldg.	845	W.F. Cox	Potatoes	Sept. 2	Apr. 15
ROCHESTER, N.Y.** 419 Triangle Bldg.	837	A.L. Prugh	Apples	Sept. 4	May 15
			Pears*	Sept. 4	Oct. 31*
			Cabbage*	Sept. 4	Mar. 10*
			Onions	Sept. 14	Apr. 15
			Peaches*	Sept. 14	Oct. 3*
			Celery*	Sept. 16	Jan. 23*
			Potatoes	Sept. 16	May 15
			Grapes*	Sept. 21	Oct. 31*
			Carrots	Sept. 23	Apr. 15
PRESQUE ISLE, ME. Graves Hardware Block	842	H.L. Rutland	Potatoes	Sept. 8	Mar. 26
WAUPACA, WIS.** Court House	894	W.H. Losier	Potatoes	Sept. 14	Mar. 27
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. 419 Federal Bldg. MAIL: P.O.Box 86	895	R.H. Shoemaker	Apples*	Oct. 7	Nov. 24*
			Potatoes	Oct. 7	June 1
			Onions	Oct. 7	Mar. 20
ORLANDO, FLA.** 20 Phillips Bldg. MAIL: P.O.Box 188	920	R.B. Lamb	Citrus Fruit	Nov. 2	Apr. 15
EL CENTRO, CALIF. Barbara Worth Hotel	933	C.L. Schultz	Lettuce	Jan. 4	Apr. 10
SANFORD, FLA.** Court House	910	R.L. Sutton	Celery	Jan. 22	Apr. 10
BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS** Chamber of Commerce	931	J.D. Byers	Cabbage	Feb. 1	May 1
			Beets & Carrots	Feb. 1	May 1
			Potatoes	Mar. 29	May 1
			Stg Beans	Apr. 1	May 1
			Tomatoes	Apr. 15	May 1

** State cooperating *Reports discontinued.

Spokane, Idaho Falls and Presque Isle reports are now on a thrice-weekly basis.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. FIRM AT BATH, N.Y., IN BANKRUPTCY.

Word has been received through H. S. Duncan, of the Rochester office, that the firm of Dean, Lee & Company, at Bath, New York, is in bankruptcy. Any offices holding inspection bills against this firm should send the same at once to this office, for collection.

2c. A FRAUD UNCOVERED IN CALIFORNIA.

The following item was received from the Sacramento office this week:-

The Grande Fruit Company, a Los Angeles brokerage firm, has been imposing on the trade by offering to sell for $5.00 a verbatim copy of the directory of Imperial Valley shipping firms, which was published on January 20, by the Federal-State Inspection Service, El Centro, and distributed free to the trade and any other interested parties.

This smooth exploitation of free information, published for the benefit of the trade by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics and State Department of Agriculture, was discovered by an eastern firm and was promptly reported to Sam Preston, of the Federal-State Inspection Service, at El Centro. A letter to the trade, which accompanied the bogus directory, says in part:-

"Mr. Grande has just returned from the Imperial Valley where, at a considerable expense, he called upon all the cantaloupe and lettuce shippers personally, who are shipping now and will ship during the season of 1926.

"Thinking that a list of the shippers might be valuable to many, we have compiled such a list, one of which we are enclosing, and our charge for same is $5.00. If it is of value to you, mail us your check for $5.00, - if not, return the list to us. When you figure the time and expense required for you to make a trip to California to secure this information yourself, you will find our charge very reasonable.

"We will also make up a list of vegetable shippers in Los Angeles, and during the grape and fruit season will supply you with the names of the shippers, which may be obtained upon application and the payment of our charge of $5.00."

The letter then goes on to advertise the efficiency of their brokerage service, and is signed by J. H. Grande, Manager.

An accurate check of the "Directory," which bears the name and address of the brokerage firm, disclosed the fact that it is identical with the Federal-State list, even to the extent of including several minor mistakes, which were made in the original.

The produce firms who have contributed $5.00 to the scheme are rather "hot under the collar," as are also the Government officials, who are taking steps to advertise the fraud and warn the trade against similar impositions in the future.

3c. CERTIFYING ORANGES WHICH SHOW MORE THAN 3% DECAY IN RECEIVING MARKETS.

Complaint has been received from Florida regarding the certification of citrus fruit as below grade, when it shows more than 3% decay in receiving markets. This question came up a year ago and was covered by paragraph 3c in Division Letter of April 3, 1925, which is reprinted herewith for the information of all inspectors:

Par. 3c, D. L. for April 3, 1925:

In paragraph 4c of the Division Letter for February 6, directions were given for writing reinspection certificates covering oranges, when decay in excess of 3% is present. Further consideration of this matter has led to the belief that the situation from a certification standpoint in receiving markets is exactly the same as in certifying potatoes. The lot is technically out of grade, if there is more than 3% decay, but the exact conditions can be better shown by using the statement "aside from decay, etc." than by the point-blank statement: "This lot fails to meet Grade No.-, etc." This policy should be followed in writing either original or reinspection certificates in receiving markets.

The original statement on this matter, as published in Par. 4c, D.L. for February 6, 1925, also is reprinted as a matter of reference:-

Florida citrus grades provide that no part of the tolerance shall consist of decay at shipping point and not over 3% in receiving markets. The question has been raised as to the proper method of certification when more than 3% of decay is found in receiving markets on a lot otherwise up to grade, which was certified up to grade at shipping point. It is necessary under the existing citrus grades to certify such a lot as not meeting grade requirements. This statement should be so worded, however, as to make it very clear that it does not meet the grade because of decay in excess of 3% tolerance. Statement should also be made to the effect that "This certificate is in no way inconsistent with that issued at shipping point, decay being a grade defect which may have developed since shipping-point inspection was made." In other words, the lot may be called out of grade without necessarily reversing the shipping-point certificate.

PLEASE NOTE: All of this material, republished above, appears in very plain form also in the Reprint Pamphlet, -page 13, - sent to all inspectors the last week of December, 1925.

4c. CAUTION REGARDING WORK FOR AN OREGON FIRM.

F. E. Bailey, of our Spokane office, has advised that W. S. Hurst & Company, Panama Building, Portland, Oregon, has not seen fit to pay for certain cooperative shipping-point inspections made during the past season at request of the firm. In view of this fact, it is suggested that inspections requested by this company be made only upon prepayment of the inspection fees. The payment in advance of fees is covered under Regulation 10, Section 1, Paragraph 1, of the Rules and Regulations of the Secretary, governing the inspection of fruits and vegetables.

5c. HEAVY POTATO PLANTINGS IN KANSAS.

A. B. Mason, of the Wichita office, wrote as follows on March 6:-

"There is very heavy planting of potatoes going on here, the sale of seed potatoes being about four times as great as last year. Many of these fields will be irrigated this year for the first time. The varieties are mostly Cobbler and Bliss Triumph, which is a change from past years, when most potatoes were of the early Ohio variety. At Hutchinson the acreage will be so large that they will have to ship out the surplus, which dealers believe will amount to some 100 cars. For the first time it looks like this territory will ship potatoes during the summer and will not need to ship in its supply."

The next two items are from California Inspectors' Notes No. 10, Mar. 5:-

6c. NOTES ON SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA VALLEY CROPS.

The Imperial Valley lettuce deal is due to pick up in volume by March 8 and should run heavy until the end of March, according to word just received from Sam Preston. He predicts that 75 to 80 cars a day probably will be inspected during the rush period. For the week ending February 20, 163½ cars were certified, 72 man days; and the last week of February 277 cars were certified. By February 28, about 1,622 cars were inspected, compared with 996 to that date last season.

Acreages of cantaloupes and Bermuda onions indicate a year of heavy production for both crops. Mr. Preston writes that the acreage of M.S.'s., which will start to mature about May 5 and be harvested in full blast the 20th, is estimated locally at 20,000 acres. Between 4,000 and 5,000 acres of cantaloupes are under brush, and late plantings may go as high as 12,000 to 15,000 acres. This would make an estimated total of 35,000 to 40,000 acres for the Valley this year.

Coachella Valley is said to have some 2,200 acres of Bermuda onions, which will be ready for harvest about April 20 or 25 and will continue probably through May. As usual, the onion and cantaloupe deals will overlap by a few weeks.

Mr. Schrader is said to have a large acreage of melons signed up for marketing under his f.o.b. selling plan, which will mean a large number of inspections from that source.

L. O. Lee has asked that a cantaloupe and watermelon inspector be stationed at Yuma, Arizona, and has guaranteed his expenses there, in order to secure certification of his shipments this coming season.

7c. HAYWARD LATE BROCCOLI MOVING.

The late crop of Hayward broccoli has turned out rather inferior in quality, writes F. E. Buttin , and 30% or 40% has to be culled out, in the fields, to make U. S. No.1 grade. The pickle factories are taking most of the culls at $20. to $30 per ton for the curds. Warm weather is bringing the broccoli on rapidly and, by the 20th of the month, the deal will be practically cleaned up. F. A. Powell is now making inspections at Walnut Creek, in connection with the Hayward force.

RECEIVING-POINT INSPECTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 1926.

Markets	Total Inspections	Total Same Month 1925	Inspections for Carriers	Declined for Lack of Time	Total Fees
Atlanta	71	51	4	0	$ 297.50
Baltimore	30	42	3	0	127.00
Boston	113	86	31	0	477.50
Buffalo	36	37	5	0	139.00
Chicago	221	293	1	0	1282.00
Cincinnati	45	52	0	0	232.50
Cleveland	57	86	21	0	234.00
Columbus	18	34	0	0	74.00
Denver	8	6	0	0	34.00
Detroit	82	63	7	0	285.50
Duluth	13	-	0	0	52.00
Fort Worth	17	14	0	0	64.00
Harrisburg	0	1	0	0	----
Houston	30	21	0	0	117.50
Indianapolis	42	20	5	0	176.00
Kansas City	60	81	8	0	241.00
Los Angeles	15	-	0	0	60.00
Memphis	49	40	29	0	200.00
Milwaukee	27	15	0	0	114.00
Minneapolis	62	58	0	5	305.50
Newark	27	-	0	0	109.50
New Haven	55	45	6	0	228.50
New Orleans	79	133	46	0	294.00
New York	511	1073	143	0	2103.50
Norfolk	20	60	0	0	81.00
Omaha	40	34	0	0	158.00
Philadelphia	75	81	21	0	303.00
Pittsburgh	89	72	15	0	371.50
Portland	47	25	7	0	183.50
Raleigh	4	-	0	0	16.00
Sacramento	2	-	0	0	8.00
St. Louis	99	98	40	0	294.00
Salt Lake City	2	4	0	0	8.00
San Diego	0	32	0	0	0
San Francisco	5	10	0	0	23.50
Washington	41	31	4	0	184.00
Wichita	6	-	0	0	24.00
Wilkes-Barre	11	11	7	0	51.00
TOTAL	2109	2709	403	5	$ 8954.00

INSPECTIONS FOR THE NAVY AND MARINE CORPS DURING FEBRUARY, 1926.

SYMBOLS: N - NAVY M - MARINE CORPS	ALL FIGURES IN THESE COLUMNS REPRESENT POUNDS				
	Fruits and Vegetables PASSED	Fruits and Vegetables REJECTED	TOTAL QUANTITY INSPECTED	"Cuts" Made to Comply with Specifications	Items Billed Short-weight
STATIONS	N M	N M	N M	N M	N M
BOSTON	36338 3118	1479 0	87817 3118	116 0	6 0
NEW YORK	243006 86492	5336 600	248342 87092	168 0	0 0
NORFOLK	75048 0	0 0	75048 0	0 0	0 0
PHILADELPHIA	143566 15763	2318 10	145884 15773	945 0	0 0
SAN DIEGO	243752 53236	4013 975	247765 54211	794 59	0 0
SAN FRANCISCO	100062 0	10000 0	110062 0	0 0	0 0
SAN PEDRO	109418 0	1910 0	111328 0	289 0	0 0
VALLEJO	181953 21402	14232 150	196235 21552	20 0	0 0
TOTALS	1183143 180011	39338 1735	1222481 181746	2332 59	6 0
INSPECTIONS MADE FOR U. S. SHIPPING BOARD					
NEW YORK	21460	0	21460	0	0
NORFOLK	36694	290	36984	0	0
TOTAL	58154	290	58444	0	0

In addition to the above the New York office inspected the following:

	Vegetables	Fruits	Rejections
For the United States Lines.....	64,549 lbs.	19,845 lbs.	3,041 lbs.
For United American Lines.....	--	16,954	--
For the Munson Line.....	81,522	74,057	991
For the American Diamond Line.....	9,886	2,652	1,800
For the American Merchant Line.....	6,302	2,493	190
For the American France Line.....	6,518	1,560	150
For the American West & South African Line	3,680	1,576	--

The Vallejo office also inspected and passed the following for the Navy: 30,100 lbs. bread; 100 lbs. rolls.

The San Pedro office also inspected and passed the following for the Navy: 628 lbs. bread, 400 lbs. butter, 300 lbs. cheese.

8c. INSPECTIONS IN LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY.

C. D. Shirley advised from Harlingen, Texas, that 2,000 carloads of vegetables have already been inspected in the Rio Grande Valley, and the season total may exceed 4,000 cars. Potatoes will be starting soon from the Brownsville section and tomatoes from Valley points, thus adding to the volume of inspections. First onion shipments also will soon be coming from Raymondville.

9c. WHY THE CONSUMER PAYS SO MUCH.

Possibly some of our people listened in to a talk, broadcast March 2 by the Winter Park (Fla.) Broadcasting Station WDBO, on the subject: "Why the Consumer Pays So Much and the Grower Gets So Little." This was prepared by A. M. Pratt, the Florida citrus fruit man, and gives a very good explanation of the margin between prices to growers and retail prices or hotel prices. If anyone is particularly interested, copies of the talk possibly can be obtained from Station WDBO, at Winter Park, Fla., as the talk was mimeographed for distribution.

10c. MATERIAL SENT TO INSPECTORS:

Copy of an important Memorandum, No. 60, is being sent with this D.L. to each inspector. This is a "Summary of Regulations Governing Second Inspections of Fruits and Vegetables," and should be read carefully by all inspectors.

Copies of the New York State Apple Grading Law, 1925, have been sent to inspectors in the middle-western markets, and to supervisors in the far western States. Those in the East had been provided copies previously.

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

OFFICE NOTES:

J. A. Marks has returned to his headquarters in New York City and M. W. Baker to the Pittsburgh office, following their two weeks' exchange of duties as inspectors in these two markets.

J. E. Dickerson, of the Cincinnati office, will go next week on a trip to the onion shipping-sections of Ohio and Indiana, in connection with his supervision of onion inspections at those points. R. C. Lindstrom, of the Chicago staff, will substitute in Cincinnati during Mr. Dickerson's absence.

F. S. Kinsey, who has been assisting in the Los Angeles office, is en route to Fort Worth, Texas, where he will substitute for M. C. Gregory, inspector, while the latter is on two weeks' military leave at the Reserve Officers' Training Camp, at San Antonio. Mr. Kinsey stopped for a day at Phoenix, Ariz., to confer with the local inspector regarding the shipping-point work on lettuce.

OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

Mr. Sherman is scheduled to give an address on "Maintaining the Integrity of Government Grades," at the Tuesday afternoon (March 16) session of the Middle Atlantic States Marketing Officials. This annual meeting will be held in the Southern Hotel at Baltimore, Md., throughout next Tuesday.

W. H. Hall, of the Chicago market news office, has gone to Rochester, Minn., for a brief period. The market reporting work in Chicago is being handled temporarily by W.J. Bertush, W. G. Lensen, and Wendell Calhoun.

Wilber T. Pentzer, of Iowa, has been appointed as a Junior Marketing Specialist, effective March 15, and will report in Chicago for training in market news work. Mr. Pentzer received his B.S. degree from Oregon Agricultural College in 1923, and took a post-graduate course in horticulture at Iowa Agricultural College from August, 1924, to July, 1925. His summer vacations were spent largely in orchard and nursery work, and from 1923 to 1924 Mr. Pentzer was employed by a fruit company in the grading, packing and shipping of various fruits. Recently, he has been employed as a graduate assistant in the Agricultural Experiment Station at Ames, Iowa.

Robert Bier is in Louisiana the end of this week, and probably will return to the Washington office by next Tuesday. He is conferring with C.R. Newton, Supervising Inspector at Baton Rouge, and together they are making a short trip through producing sections of the State.

H. C. Diehl, of the Wenatchee, Wash., office of B.P.I., was a visitor to our Washington office this week. He is in the city to confer with specialists in B.P.I., regarding work on the maturity tests of apples.

Miss Opal V. Yeoman, of the Washington market news section, did not go to the Los Angeles office, as predicted in last week's Division Letter. At the last minute, word was received from Los Angeles that the prospective transfer of Mrs. Maxwell to the War Dept. was not consummated, and therefore no successor would be needed in Los Angeles.

Announcement has been received of the birth of a son, Richard, on March 3 to Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Ahearn. Mr. Ahearn formerly was in charge of the New York City market news work, but now is with a produce firm in Cincinnati.

Two entire columns in the New York Packer for March 6 were given to republishing the potato paragraphs, which originally appeared in our Weekly Market Review, dated March 2. This material analyzed the recent report of potato stocks on hand January 1. The Packer reprint was on the front page, first column.

On the Market Station Address List, the residence address of John D. Snow, at Denver, should be changed to 1486 South Sherman Street; phone South 8673-R.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 7, NO. 12
March 19, 1926.
(Contents Confidential)

1a. PROGRESS IN THE STANDARDIZATION OF TRADE PRACTICES.

During the last week in December, copies of S. & R. A. No. 97 were sent to all of the names on the dealers' lists of our branch offices and to all of the additional dealers and shippers listed in the Blue Book and the Green Book with ratings which indicated that they handled 25 cars per year or over. This made a total of nearly 20,000 names. To each was sent a return circular letter, on which the dealer was requested to transmit his suggestions for changes in the proposed trading rules and to state whether or not he intended to sign the proposed agreement. A considerable number were returned undelivered and several hundred came back from persons who were not in fact engaged in handling carlots of fruits and vegetables, largely from banks, feed dealers, railway officials and others whose names were on our market station dealers' lists. Over 1600 replies were received from eligible persons or firms, indicating a desire to sign the contract. Less than 50 unfavorable replies were received. Very few suggestions for changes in the rules were received, which had not been given extended consideration in earlier conferences with the trade. It is not believed that any substantial changes in the rules as suggested in S. & R. A. 97 will need to be made.

Recently, complete membership lists of the joint council organizations, with duplicates thrown out, were received from Mr. E. S. French, the Secretary, and a similar membership list from the Secretary of the American Fruit and Vegetable Shippers' Association. We had assumed that all of these firms would be reached by our first circularization and were surprised to find more than 400 names in the membership of the joint council organizations, which either did not appear in the rating books or were shown as doing a business of less than 25 cars per year.

Similar material to that distributed in December was sent during the first week in March to all the members of the four principal trade associations who had been omitted in the December distribution; also to a list of 1,000 selected small dealers in the States of Georgia, Arkansas, Colorado and Michigan, selected from the Blue Book or Green Book, apparently doing business of less than 25 cars each. Follow-up letters also were mailed to all of the members of the four principal organizations who had not replied to the first circularization. We understand that the secretaries of these organizations are circularizing their members, urging them to reply to our circular letter, if they have not done so.

Immediate results were secured from a circular sent out early in March, so that, up to the close of business on March 16, we had a total of 1,875 replies from potential cooperators. The Bureau hopes to proceed promptly with the necessary printing, with a view to beginning the actual signing of contracts as soon as the necessary material can be secured from the Government Printing Office, probably four to six weeks hence.

(Page 149)

JAMES A. SHERAN,
Specialist in Charge,
Fruit and Vegetable Division.

The next three items are from Shipping-Point Inspectors' Letter No. 20, issued by F. E. Bailey for Oregon and Washington men on March 9.

2a. HOOD RIVER ASPARAGUS.

W. J. Kocker, County Fruit Inspector at Hood River, writes under date of February 26: "There are possibly 120 acres of bearing asparagus and 20 acres non-bearing, which is interested in carlot shipments. This includes the plantings around Bingen (Washington) and Mosier, as well as Hood River. The loading point for all these, however, will be Hood River. The varieties are 65% Palmetto and the balance Washington.

"The growers are interested in forming an organization which likely will be called the Mid-Columbia Truck Gardeners' Association. Yasui Brothers, of Hood River, are the ones chiefly interested in the asparagus deal and probably will handle the details of it until such time as the association is definitely formed."

3a. PUGET SOUND BERRY PROSPECTS.

Henry Huff, District Horticultural Inspector at Sumner, states that the present prospects are for a good berry crop this season in the Sumner-Puyallup district. Many of the red raspberry fields have recovered from the injury done by the freeze of one year ago; the canes are healthy, and there is every reason to look for normal production of this fruit. There probably will be an increase of 150 acres in the evergreen blackberry acreage this season. Many independent growers have already contracted their berries for canning at 6¢ per pound for blacks, 8¢ for sour raspberries, and 10¢ for Cuthbert raspberries, with the provision that they may sell on the fresh market, through such other channels as they desire, all berries suitable for shipping. Canners also are reported to be contracting strawberries in the district at 9¢ unhulled or 10¢ hulled, and sour cherries at 6¢ to 7¢. Berries will be shipped this season from Sumner to Vancouver, Washington, for packing under the Del Monte Brand.

4a. SQUASH PROCESSING AT SUNNYSIDE.

An interesting new industry in the Yakima Valley is that conducted by the American Squash Products Company at Sunnyside. This year the company built a new plant to house its operations. It is a one-story, red brick building, approximately 25 foot high, 176 foot long and 106 foot wide. The interior is divided laterally into eight rooms. At one end of each room are double doors, with a ramp leading up from the wagon-road, making it possible to drive auto trucks into the room for unloading the squash as brought from the field. At the opposite end of the room another door leads to the platform on the the railroad spur. Each room is equipped with two hot-air heating furnaces of the size usually installed in a six or eight-room dwelling, and ventilating flues to permit the escape of foul air. The ceilings of the rooms are 16 to 18 feet high. Along the sides of the room are six shelf-like bins or racks of open construction to permit air circulation. After these bins have been filled two or three deep with squash, additional bins are built in the center aisle or driveway and these are filled as built, so that the room finally is filled from wall to wall and from floor to ceiling with squash.

As soon as filled, a room is heated to a temperature of about 105°F. and held there for about one week, after which time the temperature is allowed to drop, but at no time may the temperature go to the freezing point. The heat hardens the rind of the squash and makes it possible to keep it in storage until late winter and spring months, when non-processed stock no longer is available. It also is said to improve appreciably the culinary quality of the stock. The management was unable to state the amount of water removed from the stock in the curing process, but it probably is between five and ten per cent. It was stated that the total shrinkage last season, including loss by evaporation in processing, loss by decay and culling, etc., was approximately 20 per cent.

As loaded for shipment, each squash is carefully looked over for defects, such as bruises, decay spots, immaturity, etc., and all defective stock is culled. Each squash is stamped with the name of the company. The squash are loaded in double-decked refrigerator cars, two deep on each deck, with straw beneath.

While the company prefers the Marblehead variety, several varieties and hybrids are used. Very few Hubbards are used, as this variety does not do so well in the Valley as others. About 150 acres are used in squash production in the vicinity of Sunnyside at the present time, squash being one of the crops which do well on some of the alkali soils of that part of the Valley.

Mr. Geo. B. Mansfield is manager of the plant, which is said to have a capacity of 1650 tons, and was operated practically to capacity this year. The plant represents an investment of over $30,000. The usual selling price of the squash is $40.00 per ton, f.o.b. Sunnyside. Sales are made at points as distant as Miami, Fla.

5a. SWEET POTATO GROWING IN STATE OF WASHINGTON.

F. E. Bailey, of the Spokane office, has called attention to a nine-page mimeographed circular on "Sweet Potato Growing," by H. J. Jenson, of the Irrigation Branch Experiment Station, at Prosser, Wash. This bulletin reports the first year's work at the branch station on variety testing, irrigation, and cultural methods for sweet potatoes in south-central Washington. The industry is rapidly expanding in that territory, and this preliminary report has been issued because of the urgent need for the information on the part of growers of sweet potatoes in Washington. Any of our employees who may be interested probably can obtain copies of the mimeographed report from the Experiment Station at Prosser.

6a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR MARCH 13:

Page 165 - Special paragraphs on onions in the weekly review.
166 - Western New York Onion Market Dull, - by A. E. Prugh.
167 - Larger Spanish Onion Shipments.
176 - Australasian Apple Crop Moves Soon.
- Truck Crops Moving from Mexican West Coast.
- New Crop Egyptian Onions en Route.

7a. BULLETIN ON VIRGINIA APPLES AND PEACHES.

F. Earl Parsons, formerly of this Division but now on the Virginia State staff, is joint author of the Virginia Survey Bulletin No.1, entitled: "The Apple and Peach Industries of Virginia." Henry M. Taylor, Agricultural Statistician, is the other author. This 56-page publication is a comprehensive and interesting study of these fruits in Virginia. Contents are as follows:

Historical Data	:	Exports
Estimating the Apple Crop	:	By-Products
Virginia in Relation to Other States	:	Cold Storage
Carlot Shipments	:	The 1924 Apple Survey
Distribution	:	The Virginia Peach Industry

The bulletin is well illustrated with line cuts, charts, and half-tone pictures. Maps show the producing sections; complete statistics are given on the number of apple and peach trees, and the relative importance of the several varieties is shown. Copies of the bulletin doubtless can be obtained by members of our staff directly from Mr. Parsons, 1030 State Office Bldg., Richmond, Va.

8a. STATISTICAL AGENCIES IN CALIFORNIA.

In a letter of March 9, from Los Angeles, H. A. Harris told of the recent meeting which he and C. J. Hansen attended in that city:-

"In accordance with your wire of authorization, I attended the meeting called by the Research Committee of the California Development Association on February 25 in this city. About 125 persons were present, representing possibly 100 agencies,- Federal, State and commercial,-engaged in research or statistical activities in the State of California. On account of the preponderance of people doing work along agricultural lines, I was not called upon to outline the work of the Bureau but gave the Committee an outline of the statistical work carried on in this office, a copy of which is inclosed.

"Henry M. Robinson, Chairman of the Research Committee and sponsor for the meeting, urged that an organization be formed to coordinate research and statistical activities in the State, but this suggestion was not followed by the meeting. A committee was formed to develop some permanent plan of operation and organization, to be presented at a future meeting, to be held in San Francisco or the Bay district. The opinion was expressed by several members of the committee that this would take form of an organization, to be sponsored by the California Development Association, that would serve as a clearinghouse in directing inquiries for material of this nature to the agencies having it available."

9a. ADDITIONAL REPORTS OF FOREIGN MARKETS.

The following mimeographed reports were issued by the Foreign Marketing Section during the past week: F.S. :O-20, "Spanish Onion Shipments." F.S. :AL-13 "Favorable Blossoming Reports from Mediterranean Almond Districts." F.S.:A-48 "The Arsenic Spray Difficulty in British Markets and The Outlook for European Apple Demand," by Edwin Smith.

10a. CROP CONDITIONS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA.

H. A. Harris, of the Los Angeles office, wrote as follows in a letter of March 8:-

"I have just returned from a trip through the northern part of my territory, covering Kern Mesa, Shafter and Wasco districts in Kern County, and San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara and Ventura counties on the Coast, a trip of nearly 600 miles.

"Kern County has not received as much rain as other southern counties, but the amount of snow in the mountains is much heavier than last year. The potato acreage in the Shafter district is heavier than last year, being estimated at 2,000 acres. The entire county probably will have 2,200 acres. Planting is nearly completed. Here, as elsewhere in southern California, it is reported that much seed of ordinary quality was planted.

"Encouraged by experimental plantings of last year, the growers have about 350 acres of onions in Kern County. Probably 200 acres are Bermuda type, 50 acres Sweet Spanish, and the balance various varieties. In the past their onions have come to the Los Angeles market by truck, but I am afraid they will have to seek outside outlets this year.

"The plantings of cantaloupes in the Wasco district are lighter than last year, probably on account of the losses in the field from heat damage and the poor prices received last season. Most of the central California cantaloupes, south of the Turlock district, are in Tulare County, just north of Kern. I did not get any figures for the entire district.

"The County Horticultural Commissioner at San Luis Obispo reports 3,500 acres of peas in the county. The crop is now being harvested, but I noticed that many of the fields were dying out, some of them even before the first picking had been made. Some of the fields are being plowed under, after the first picking. Several of the fields examined showed heavy infection of pod spot on both leaves and pods. However, I found that many growers and shippers claimed that the dying of the vines was caused by heavy storms the latter part of February. These fields lie for the most part on hillsides, facing the ocean and extending from almost the water's edge to a half-mile back. During the heavy storms, the wind caught the spray and carried it over many of the fields, and this is thought to be responsible for the losses. In any event, it looks like they are going to lose nearly one-third of their total crop.

"Guadalupe and Ventura districts are just getting into their spring cauliflower crop and expect heavy shipments for the next two weeks. The quality is generally good, probably better than any other district in the State just at present. The shipments for the past few days have broken all records and it is possible that, when the heavy supplies now rolling reach the markets, prices will decline to a point that will stop shipments. There are about 1,000 acres of cauliflower in the Guadalupe district and probably 400 in Ventura County for shipment from February 15th on.

"Plantings of spring-crop lettuce now made and contemplated are heavy, being estimated at 4,000 acres in Guadalupe district. I suppose that Mr. Hansen has informed you as to the conditions in the Watsonville and Salinas districts; plantings there have been estimated by the trade at 4,000 to 5,000 acres. There are about 200 acres of spring lettuce in Kern County and probably 350 acres in Ventura County. It does not seem that much of this heavy acreage on the Coast is early, as most shippers think that shipments will not be heavy until after the 1st of May."

11a. SOUTHERN PEACH CROP INJURED BUT NOT DISPROVED.

Georgia and North Carolina may still have a fairly good crop of peaches, notwithstanding the widespread injury resulting from the freeze of March 14, according to reports which the Department of Agriculture has received from the commercial sections.

Reports from Georgia growers indicate that 40% to 45% of the peach blooms were killed by the freeze. Temperatures in the peach section are reported to have ranged as low as 18 to 24 degrees. The Riley variety of peaches apparently was injured the most, as 65% to 75% of the blooms are reported to have been killed. Elbertas are reported to have lost 50% to 60% of the blooms and Georgia Belles 35% to 40%. Carman and other varieties appear to have suffered only slight injury.

The greatest damage occurred in the main central belt of Georgia, including Houston, Peach, Macon and Jones counties, where about 90% of the trees were in bloom. Damage to blooms also was heavy in the western group of Georgia counties, including Upson, Talbot and Meriwether. Farther north, in the Jasper and Gowen county sections, damage was less serious. Probably 20% to 25% of the buds and blooms were injured, but it is believed there still are sufficient buds left to permit a good crop. In the peach sections in the extreme northwest and northeast corners of Georgia, damage appears to have been relatively light, as the trees were not in bloom.

Reports from North Carolina indicate that temperatures in some of the peach sections on Saturday night ranged from 12 to 14 degrees above zero and, as the buds had begun to swell, it is probable that some have been killed. Many growers, however, feel that enough buds escaped injury to permit a good crop.

Taking the two States together, reports indicate that the production of Rileys may be reduced in Georgia and that Elbertas and Georgia Belles may be reduced in some localities. However, if the weather from now on is favorable, the losses may be offset by the fact that in these States more than a million young trees are coming into bearing each year. As only a small proportion of the peach blooms ever produce fruit, the important fact is now that some have been injured but that, so far, enough have been left to permit the production of a fairly good crop. Some individual growers, however, will lose rather heavily.

12a. SPECIAL REPORT ON 1925 CERTIFIED SEED POTATOES.

Under date of February 25, the Hay, Feed and Seed Division of this Bureau issued a 4-page mimeographed report on the production of certified seed potatoes in the United States in 1925. Preliminary text discusses the chief points in the report, and statistical tables show the production of leading varieties of certified seed by States and by years since 1922. It is of special interest to note that the total certified seed production in 1925 was little more than half the 1924 record production, - or 3,[illegible],365 bushels, compared with 7,372,601 in 1924. Anyone desiring a copy of this report can obtain the same directly from the Hay, Feed and Seed Division.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. PHILADELPHIA DEALERS APPRECIATE UNLOAD SUMMARY.

E. R. Tiddle, of the Philadelphia office, received the following letter, under date of February 25, from the President of the Philadelphia Branch, National League of Commission Merchants:-

"The annual summary of carlot unloads of fruits and vegetables at Philadelphia is just about the most interesting publication of your office, in my opinion.

"References are made many times during the year to your publication, and I assure you that the extra copies which you send will be placed where they will be appreciated.

"The ever-ready cooperation, which your office has always tendered the trade in general, is again acknowledged and is greatly appreciated by our individual members, I am sure."

2b. RHUBARB AUCTION SALES IN ALAMEDA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA.

Writing from San Francisco on March 10, C. J. Hansen sent the following information about rhubarb:-

"Last year we gave a service to growers of rhubarb in Alameda County, furnishing them with the shipments and two or three markets. I do not believe it will be worth while to attempt this program this year, as they expect to auction all their supplies under the auspices of the Alameda County Rhubarb Growers' Association. The first auction was held Monday, March 8.

"The members bring their daily cuttings to a central point, where offerings are 'knocked down' to the highest bidder. The auction could hardly be called a success, as very few buyers attended and little bidding took place. The initial price range was $2.50 to $3.50 per box, according to quality."

3b. BRIEF NOTES ON VARIOUS DEALS:

- "First car Texas onions about 27th; but do not expect appreciable volume before April 5," wired J.A. Hunter, of the San Antonio office, last Saturday. "Crop in exceptionally good condition, and excellent quality anticipated."

- C. J. Hansen, in wiring about arrangements for market reports on asparagus, to be furnished by the San Francisco office, said: "Looks like another bad year for California asparagus. Lateness of season makes necessary to compete with homegrown and southeastern stock. Will wire asparagus market to Imperial, press rate, collect."

- Unofficial reports, received through T. G. Stanton, indicate that another steamer sailed from Egypt on March 14 with 16,000 bags of onions, 10,000 for New York City and 6,000 for Boston.

- Low temperatures at the close of last week caused slight damage to the potato crop in the Hastings section of Florida. Truck crops in the Savannah and Thomasville sections of Georgia also were either damaged to a slight extent of delayed about two weeks.

4b. SUMMARY OF GEORGIA ASPARAGUS D.L.

Summary of the Georgia Asparagus Deal, Season of 1925, by George A. DeHaven, has just been released. A graph in this report illustrates the daily shipments from Georgia, on the basis of crates, and shows the fluctuations. Express rates are given from Marshallville, Ga., to 42 cities, and the number of crates shipped from each station in central Georgia is tabulated. The table of destinations indicates that Chicago took 6,596 crates of the 31,845 shipped during the period from March 23 to April 18; Cleveland 5,767 crates; Baltimore 3,665 crates; and New York City 3,218 crates. Cincinnati, Columbus and Detroit received from 1,000 to 2,500 crates each.

5b. SPANISH-TYPE ONIONS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA.

Another letter, dated March 9, from H. A. Harris is as follows:-

"I attended an informal luncheon at the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce on March 1, called for the purpose of considering the status of the production and marketing of Spanish-type onions in southern California. About ten were present, - mostly shippers,- and the discussion was general. The chief points brought out were that the production of Spanish-type onions has increased to a point where it was necessary to seek outside markets and that probably the most practical way in which shipping could be done would be to adopt the package and style of pack now used for imported Spanish onions.

"It was decided to call another meeting in the near future and make an especial effort to get out all of the growers of Spanish onions in southern California and try to agree on some standard plan of action. While there are probably 300 or 350 acres of valencia-type onions grown in this section, the production is in the hands of five or six growers."

6b. UTILIZATION OF SURPLUS PLUMS.

Another bulletin to come to our attention this week is Bulletin 400 of the State College of Agriculture, Berkeley, California. The title is: "The Utilization of Surplus Plums," and the author is W. V. Cruess. It is interesting to note that a dozen products are prepared from cull plums in California, as follows:

Frozen crushed plums for jam and jelley.	Candy
Butter and jam.	Candy base.
Plum jam pulp.	Beverage syrup.
Plum-peach jam pulp	Preserves.
Jelly.	Canned plums
Jelly juice.	Dehydrated plums.

7b. LIST OF FIELD STATIONS OPENED IN 1925.

With this D. L. there is being distributed a complete list of the temporary field stations of the Market News Service, which were opened during the year 1925. Keep this for future reference.

E. W. STILLWELL,
Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

STATIONS	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably will close
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	Mrs. L. B. Gerry	Apples	Aug. 24	Apr. 3
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO 230 Federal Bldg.	845	W. F. Cox	Potatoes	Sept. 2	Apr. 15
ROCHESTER, N.Y.** 419 Triangle Bldg.	837	H. S. Duncan A. L. Thomas	Apples	Sept. 4	May 15
			Pears*	Sept. 4	Oct. 31*
			Cabbage*	Sept. 4	Mar. 12*
			Onions	Sept. 14	Apr. 15
			Peaches*	Sept. 14	Oct. 3*
			Celery*	Sept. 16	Jan. 23*
			Potatoes	Sept. 16	May 15
			Grapes*	Sept. 21	Oct. 31*
			Carrots	Sept. 23	Apr. 15
PELSART ISLE, FLA. Graves Hardware Block	842	H. B. Rutland	Potatoes	Sept. 8	Mar. 26
WAUPACA, WIS.** Court House	894	W. H. Losier	Potatoes	Sept. 14	Mar. 27
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. 419 Federal Bldg. MAIL: P.O. Box 86	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Apples*	Oct. 7	Nov. 24*
			Potatoes	Oct. 7	June 1
			Onions	Oct. 7	Mar. 20
ORLANDO, FLA.** 20 Phillips Bldg. MAIL: P.O. Box 188	920	R. H. Lamb	Citrus Fruit	Nov. 2	Apr. 15
EL CENTRO, CALIF. Barbara Worth Hotel	933	C. L. Schultz	Lettuce	Jan. 4	Apr. 10
SANFORD, FLA.** Court House	910	R. L. Sutton	Celery	Jan. 22	Apr. 10
BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS** Chamber of Commerce	931	J. D. Evers	Cabbage	Feb. 1	May 1
			Beets & Carrots	Feb. 1	May 1
			Potatoes	Mar. 29	May 1
			Stg. Beans	Apr. 1	May 1
			Tomatoes	Apr. 15	May 1
The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:					
HAMMOND, LA.	802	W. H. Losier	Berries	Mar. 25	May 15
LAREDO, TEXAS**	801	A. E. Prugh	Onions	Apr. 1	May 8
HASTINGS, FLA.**	851	R. L. Sutton	Potatoes	Apr. 15	May 22

** State Cooperating. *Reports discontinued.

A. E. Prugh on leave at Radnor, Ohio.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. AVERAGE DECAY IN CITRUS CARS.

A case has been called to my attention where a range of 2% to 10% decay in citrus fruit was stated without an average. Read Par. 1389 of the Citrus Circular, and remember that the trade demands more exact figures in a citrus inspection than in many other products. The examples under Par. 1389 show how this should be handled, when different quantities of decay are found.

2c. READ PARAGRAPH 206, BULLETIN 7, PART 2, INSPECTORS' HANDBOOK.

My attention has been called to a few instances in which cars were reported "up to grade aside from decay" when the total of decay and blemishes was within the grade tolerance. This is contrary to the general policy in handling such cases. Such cars should be certified as up to grade without any restrictions. Full statement, of course, should be made under decay on the amount and character of this defect. Read the above-mentioned handbook paragraph and example carefully, as shown in headline of this item.

3c. FLORIDA SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTIONS.

The following inspections were made at shipping points in Florida during the period February 16 to 28:-

- F R U I T S -

Section	Grapefruit	Oranges	Tangerines	Mixed Citrus	Total
Clermont	1	1	0	5	7
Groveland	3	0	0	3	6
Lakeland	4	3	0	5	12
Leesburg	4	5	0	4	13
Mt. Dora	3	10	0	5	18
Ocala	0	0	0	1	1
Tavares	1	1	0	5	7
Umatilla	2	9	0	9	20
Totals	18	29	0	37	84
Total to Feb. 15-	233	345	43	200	821
	251	374	43	237	905

- V E G E T A B L E S -

Section	Colony	Section	Colony
Bradenton	2	Palmetto	3
Hamboo	6	Sanford	114
Hatonka	7	Wagner	3
Oneco	12	Total	160
Oviedo	7	Total to Feb. 15-	201
			361

TOTAL INSPECTIONS OF FRUITS AND VEGETABLES TO FEBRUARY 28:----------1,271

The next three items are from Shipping-Point Inspectors' Letter No. 23, issued by F. E. Bailey for Oregon and Washington men on March 9:

4c. SKIN-BREAKS IN PRUNES.

The following extract from a letter written by Henry Hartman, Associate Professor of Pomology, O.A.C., is of interest at this time because of the request of prune growers in certain localities that the U.S. grades be made more lenient in regard to bruises and skin-breaks.

"As you know, we carried on experimental work with prunes from the Walla Walla Valley during the season of 1925. Altogether, about 20 lots of these prunes were stored and kept under observation until they finally broke down from natural causes or from the action of decay organisms.

"In most cases it was very noticeable that decay organisms such as blue and gray mold rarely entered the fruit that was sound and free from cuts and bruises. Infection in most cases was confined to fruits that had been picked without stems and especially to the cases where the flesh was torn as a result. We found this to be true not only of the Walla Walla prunes but also of those from the Willamette Valley."

5c. POTATO DEALING IN THE YAKIMA VALLEY.

According to Fred E. Kelly, inspector in the potato-producing section of the Yakima Valley, a novel method of dealing between grower and shipper has been in use this season. For example, when U. S. No.1 Netted Gems were quoted at $55 per ton to the grower, Washington Combination Grade Gems (75% No.1 stock) would be quoted at $45 per ton. A deal would be closed on the basis of the Combination price, with the understanding that, for each 5% increase or decrease in No. 1 stock in the lot as shown by the cooperative Federal-State certificate when loaded, the price would be increased or decreased $1.00 per ton. A lot which, upon inspection, showed 80% U.S. No.1 stock (or an "80-20 lot" as the local designation is) would return the grower $46, while a "70-30 lot" would bring him but $44. Under these conditions, it would pay the grower with a good stock to grade to and sell on a U.S. No.1 basis, for there would be a differential of $6 per ton between stock sold on the Combination Grade sliding scale but showing 95% No.1 stock and stock sold on a straight No.1 grade.

6c. ALUMINUM SIZING RINGS AVAILABLE.

L. G. Schultz, Supervising Inspector, at Boise Idaho, advises that the Salt Lake Stamp Company, 65 W. Broadway 3rd, South, Salt Lake City, Utah, is in position to manufacture aluminum sizing rings, like those manufactured by the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture for its inspectors. The company will furnish them in lots of 20 for $2.50 each. Mr. Schultz states that the Idaho Department is equipping its permanent men with these sizing rings.

WITH THE COMING OF SPRING, many applications for inspection are being received from producing sections. Within a few weeks it probably will be necessary to begin publishing again in the Division Letter a current list of temporary inspection headquarters in the field.

The next eight items are from California Inspectors' Notes No. 11, March 12:-

7c. BLIGHT DOES NOT CAUSE CELERY TO DECAY.

Elwood Collins writes that celery blight did not cause decay or breakdown in cold storage experiments which he recently carried on in San Diego. Two crates of affected stalks were held for some time under conditions similar to those in a refrigerator car. The branches affected by blight became greatly discolored and bitter, and took on a water-soaked appearance, but, aside from this condition, were just as before storage. Other experiments, on stock infested with worms, are now being crried on, Mr. Collins says, to see how the worms behave under traveling conditions.

8c. NEWS VIA RADIO FROM AGRICULTURAL STATION NOW.

Agricultural news is now being broadcast from KGW, the San Jose station which has been taken over by the California Farm Bureau Federation. This makes it possible to broadcast a great deal of information of importance to farmers throughout the State, and the station is being extensively used by the State Department of Agriculture. The Federation is composed of 33 county farm bureaus, and Fred Hart, Editor and General Manager of the Farm Bureau Monthly, is in active direction of the station.

9c. TURLOCK PLANTINGS LIGHTER.

Turlock shippers report that the melon acreage therewill be reduced this year, as compared with last. "This is especially true of cantaloupes," writes V. T. Harmon. "Grape tonnage will increase, of course." Westfall-Lane give the following estimates: Cantaloupes, 3,200 acres, Casabas 1,000 acres, Honeydews 1,200 acres and Sweet Potatoes 3,000 acres.

10c. PICTURE OF EL CENTRO OFFICE.

V.T. Harmon writes that his health is returning and he hopes to be back in the harness in about a week. We are also indebted to him for a very typical snapshot of the El Centro office, showing Sam Preston in his favorite cap, compiling his statistics; Mrs. Preston and Jerry Avigne at the Underwoods, and C. E. Schultz and his stenographer dashing off the daily lettuce report.

11c. INSPECTIONS AFFECTED BY CASH BUYERS IN IMPERIAL VALLEY.

The abundance of cash f.o.b. buyers in the Imperial Valley has a decided influence in reducing the demand for lettuce inspection, according to Sam Preston. Whereas in 1924 there were very few cash buyers in the field, this year there are at least 75, each actively bidding for the cars as soon as they are loaded.

The gradual change in the plan of marketing the lettuce is one of the interesting side lights on the Imperial deal. Two years ago it is said that there were not over 25 or 30 f.o.b. buyers and the bulk of the loadings were sold by wire or consigned. With the many shipments rolling into a few principal markets, the distribution was poor and the deal closed with many losses.

The following year, 1925, cash buying was much more active, with some 50 buyers on the ground. The distribution covered more markets and, although a few more cars were shipped than the previous year, the deal generally was a very profitable one. Due mainly to the extended distribution, the 1926 season to date has been profitable for the shippers, although the quality of the lettuce so far has been generally ordinary. Cash buyers have made the deal an active f.o.b. selling affair, all scrambling for the shipments offered.

In connection with the influx of buyers and brokers, one's attention is attracted to the methods they use in outbidding each other for cars, and the inexperience shown by many of them in determing quality is especially apparent. Many instances have been noted by inspectors where shippers have held back certain lots of 'dynamite', to be loaded later and delivered to one of the 'tenderfoot' buyers, who were buying on their own inspection without Government certificate. There has been much dissatisfaction in the receiving markets over the quality of the Imperial shipments, and "a few of the buyers already have received notices to 'Come Home Quick,'" says Mr. Preston.

That an increased percentage of the shipments has been certified this year, compared with previous years at this date, indicates a healthy condition for Shipping Point Inspection. With the f.o.b. market very active and as most of the cash buyers are supposed to do their own inspecting, the increased demands for certification show that it is considered a necessity by many of the trade.

Mr. Preston's letter continues: "A growing tendency toward Federal-State Inspection is especially apparent on the part of some of the older buyers and brokers. It is partly due to the confidence they are having in the work we are doing and the value of the certificate as a record of their purchase. The manner in which we are writing the percentage of solidity, and also stating the percent of U. S. No. 1 quality on cars that are out of grade, appeals to them and is being used in many instances in establishing the price paid for such cars. Several buyers, who previously have never used certificates, are now insisting upon them with each car."

The following figures from Mr. Preston show the trend of quality toward a lower level:

Date	U.S. 1	80-85% No. 1 Quality	Below 80%
Feb. 23	7 per cent	62 per cent	31 per cent
24	16 "	44 "	40 "
25	10 "	66 "	24 "
26	11 "	56 "	33 "
27	10 "	59 "	31 "
28	5 "	50 "	45 "
Mar. 1	6 "	45 "	49 "
" 2	3 "	35 "	62 "
" 3	6 "	33 "	61 "
4	9 "	27 "	64 "
5	3 "	34 "	63 "
6	2 "	42 "	56 "
7	0 "	27 "	73 "
8	0 "	25 "	75 "

Above percentages are based only on cars certified; no check is available on uninspected cars. Of 1,870 cars shipped during this period, 497 or 26% were inspected.

12c. POTATOES FROM COLMA IN ABOUT TWO WEEKS.

J. E. Currey, Potato Specialist, has been in San Francisco, investigating conditions at Colma. H. W. Peterson reports that the potatoes in that district have been growing fine, and the earliest are to be ready for market by April 1 or possibly the last week in March, provided colder weather does not retard their development. It is estimated that 90 cars of seed have been planted, and, though this is decidedly less than was planted last year, it is expected that there will be nearly the same production on account of the superior grade of seed used this year.

A meeting of the San Francisco and Colma potato interests is scheduled for March 22 to discuss the proposed Standardization Regulations on potatoes, with especial reference to nematode injury and the present practice of facing lugs of early potatoes.

13c. APPLES AND ARTICHOKES AT WATSONVILLE AND SALINAS.

About 350 cars of apples are yet to be shipped from cold storages in Watsonville, according to a letter just received from C. H. Beasley. About 90 days will be required to clean up the shipments, trailing along until about the last of May. Though some tremors have been felt, following the arsenical spray residue scare and the recent rejections on account of internal browning, the market has been maintained fairly well and the majority of the shippers realize the necessity of keeping such inferior apples off the market.

Since the bottom fell out of the artichoke market, much stricter inspection of shipments of that commodity has been encouraged. At present all cars shipped from the Half Moon Bay Artichoke Association, Del Monte Junction, are being inspected by Earl Wilson. "The principal defects noted are brown tips, badly-bruised buds and worm injury, the latter often running as high as 15%" says Mr. Beasley. The artichoke deal in this district will close about April 15.

14c. OXNARD TO PICK UP SOON.

"Not long ago I was asked to inspect some 'Pe-Tsai,'" writes W. L. Powell. "I told the applicant I didn't understand that language, but that I would inspect whatever he had. I was somewhat relieved when I found it was Chinese cabbage; I also had some green horse beans to inspect, which the shipper called 'fava beans'." These are some of the oddities mentioned in a letter from Oxnard, which give an idea of the versatile demands on the inspection there.

"The deal in Oxnard should pick up from now on. Inspections are lined up on approximately 700 acres of lettuce, 300 acres of cauliflower, and 200 acres of various other vegetables. Cars of mixed vegetables are being shipped now; shipments of late cauliflower are just starting; lettuce will start the last of March."

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection

STANDARDIZATION AND RESEARCH

1d. RESULTS OF CONFERENCE ON APPLE GRADES.

Representatives from the eastern apple States, who met last Friday and Saturday with members of the Fruit and Vegetable Division in Washington, to discuss the desirability of making changes in the U.S. grades for barreled apples, were of the opinion that it is very desirable to provide for an additional grade, to be called "U.S. Commercial." This grade would be very similar to the U.S. No. 1, except that summer apples, which are mature enough for cooking purposes, and also late varieties, which are mature but do not have the color requirements of U.S. No. 1, would be included in this new grade. Unless otherwise specified, a 2¼ inch minimum would apply to apples shipped as "U.S. Commercial."

A few changes were suggested in the definitions under "damage" and "serious damage." It also was thought that a decay tolerance of 1% should be allowed at shipping point.

The meetings held with these representatives from eastern States throughout Friday and most of Saturday provided a means of very enjoyable contact, and proved to be profitable in every way. Many of the questions concerning points in the U.S. barreled apple grades were discussed and the whole situation was greatly clarified.

2d. SUMMARIES OF THE PEANUT GRADES.

Summaries of the U.S. Grades for Shelled White Spanish Peanuts and for Shelled Runner Peanuts, printed on slips of heavy paper to fit note-books, are being sent with this D.L. to all inspectors.

H. W. SAMSON,
Specialist in Standardization.

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Sherman expects to leave Washington on the night of March 24 and proceed to Evansville, Ind., for the annual meeting of the Melon Distributors Association. He is scheduled to deliver an address at one of the sessions on Friday, the 26th, his subject being "Federal Cooperation with the Fruit and Vegetable Trade." On Thursday, Mr. Sherman will stop at Vincennes, Ind., to confer with growers and shippers, regarding shipping-point inspection work in that region. R. C. Butner, of the Chicago office, will meet Mr. Sherman at Vincennes and also attend the meeting in that city.

Mr. Samson plans to start for the Pacific Northwest on Friday, March 26, and will be absent from Washington perhaps six weeks or more. This trip, which is in the interest of standardization and inspection work, will take Mr. Samson to all of the Northwestern States, to California, and Colorado and probably to other points in the West. He will confer with Supervising Inspectors and with State officials, as well as with the growers and shippers, attending numerous meetings which are being arranged at various points en route. On his way West, Mr. Samson may stop at the Chicago office for a short period.

OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

Mr. Stillwell spent last Tuesday in Baltimore, where he conferred with representatives of this Division and with others interested in the marketing of fruits and vegetables.

Kenneth W. Schaible, of New Jersey, has been appointed as an Asst. Marketing Specialist, effective March 19. For some time, Mr. Schaible has been working on inspections of consolidated express shipments of Florida products at Jacksonville, Fla., and he will continue this work under his new appointment, part of his salary still being paid by the State of Florida. Mr. Schaible received his B.S. degree from Rutgers University, at New Brunswick, N.J., in 1923. He has been employed at various times during the last four years as a cooperative inspector at shipping points in practically all of the Atlantic seaboard States from New Jersey to Florida, and is very favorably known to many of our inspectors.

Preparatory to accepting a cooperative appointment in the State of South Carolina, George E. Prince expects to leave Washington on Sunday for Chicago, where he will receive training in inspection work for the next three or four weeks. When the Hastings potato deal opens in Florida, Mr. Prince may go there, to familiarize himself with field inspection work on potatoes. About May 1, he expects to arrive in South Carolina and begin his duties as a Federal-State cooperative employee, in immediate charge of the marketing activities under the State Agricultural Extension Service. Mr. Prince was appointed to the Market News Service in August, 1920, and has spent most of his time in the field, operating temporary market news stations. His chief service has been rendered in the Western States, where he has handled important assignments. Since coming to Washington in early January, Mr. Prince has devoted considerable time to the preparation of a manuscript for a bulletin on "Marketing Hints for Housewives." It is felt that his prospective position in South Carolina will give him an excellent opportunity to continue in a different sphere the good work which he has been doing for 5½ years as a Federal employee. Mr. Prince is a graduate of Clemson Agricultural College and is familiar with farming conditions throughout the State.

The HOUSTON office of the Inspection Service closed at the end of last week and H. T. Longino is now handling shipping-point inspections of cabbage, beets and carrots in the Crystal City section of South Texas. When the onion season opens in the Upper Counties, Mr. Longino will supervise inspection work on that crop, as he did last year.

When L. O. Gregory completes his period of military leave at San Antonio about March 28, it is planned to have him proceed directly to Laredo, Texas, to begin the inspection work on Bermuda onions in the Laredo district. F. B. Kinsey will continue to handle Fort Worth inspections until the middle of April.

OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

Robert Bier returned from his southern trip on Tuesday, and left again last night for South Carolina, where he will confer with State authorities regarding inspection work. He probably will be back in Washington by the middle of next week, and may stop at Raleigh, N.C., en route.

H. W. Schneck, who has been assisting in the Atlanta inspection office for several weeks, will meet Mr. Bier at Williston, S. C., the end of this week, and together they will arrange to start shipping-point inspections on asparagus in western South Carolina.

T. R. Merrill, of the Chicago inspection staff, will proceed to Detroit the end of next week, where he will assist G. C. Bayley with local inspections for an indefinite period. Detroit work usually becomes heavy by April.

The New York Packer for March 13 contains three articles by representatives of this Division. R. L. Ringer, of the Portland office, has a review of the northwestern potato situation; H. A. Harris, of the Los Angeles office, is credited with the report on the Agricultural Outlook for 1926, and there is an interview with E. W. Stillwell, regarding the Market News Service, particularly in western New York.

Herbert Graff was called to Michigan last Sunday, on account of the death of his father. He may not return to duty until about March 24.

J. D. Ivers, in charge of the field station at Brownsville, Texas, expects to attend the 11th regular meeting of the Southwest Shippers Advisory Board, at Brownsville, on March 19, and give an informal talk on the work of this Bureau with respect to vegetables.

A. L. Prugh has left Rochester, after conducting the market news work at that station since last September, and is now on leave at his home near Radnor, Ohio. He expects to arrive at Laredo, Texas, about April 1, to open the field station on onions.

After March 27, the market reports on Wisconsin potatoes will be taken over by the State authorities and will be issued from Stevens Point, Wis., when the Waupaca field station closes. W. H. Losier, who handled the reports at Waupaca this season, will go on a short period of leave at his home in Columbus, Ohio, and then proceed immediately to Hammond, La., to operate the news service on strawberries. T. G. Lensen, of the Chicago office, will substitute at Waupaca all of next week, to permit Mr. Losier to leave at once.

H. H. Henderson, of the Norfolk office of the Inspection Service, is in Washington today, conferring regarding the Norfolk work.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 7, NO. 13
March 26, 1926.
(Contents Confidential)

1a. COUNTRY GENTLEMAN ARTICLE BY MR. SHERMAN.

Employees of the Fruit and Vegetable Division will be interested in an article by Mr. Sherman, in the April issue of The Country Gentleman. It is entitled: "UNCLE SAM IS MY PARTNER; Produce Shippers and Buyers who Obey the Rules Get Federal Approval." The article is illustrated with a picture of the Washington Street market, New York City. It discusses in a popular manner the proposed Standard Trading Rules for the produce trade.

2a. REPORT ON INTENTIONS TO PLANT.

Last Friday, the Division of Crop and Livestock Estimates issued a report on farmers' intentions to plant potatoes, sweet potatoes and peanuts this season, in addition to similar reports on other commodities. The statements are available in mimeographed form, previous to their publication in Crops and Markets.

3a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR MARCH 20:

Page 181 - Lettuce shipments from Imperial Valley. (filler)
- Special paragraphs on potatoes in the weekly review.
182 - Texas Cabbage Delayed, - by J. D. Evers.
187 - Improvement in British Apple Market.
188 - Broccoli Situation in Umpqua Valley, Oregon.
192 - Larger United States Onion Imports.
- Favorable Blossoming in Mediterranean Almond Districts.

4a. REVISED TABLE OF PACKAGES PER CARLOAD.

After careful consideration and considerable revision, the Table of Packages per Carload has been re-stenciled and re-mimeographed. Copies of the revised booklet are being sent with this Division Letter to all members of the technical staff, - both Market News men and men in the Inspection Service. Your criticisms and corrections are requested by the Washington office. Many of the items were not changed, because of lack of information on which to base corrections.

5a. REPORTS OF THE FOREIGN MARKETING SECTION.

F. S.:O-21, on "Egyptian Onion Shipments," and F. S.:A-49, on "The Brazilian Apple Market," are two additional mimeographed reports, recently issued by the Foreign Marketing Section.

6a. UTAH CELERY BEING FEATURED.

Walter Kingsbury, of the Salt Lake City office, has sent the following interesting report:-

Plans are being perfected for carlot shipments of celery from Utah this coming season on a larger scale than ever before. Through the efforts of the Salt Lake City Chamber of Commerce and the county agents, cooperative associations have been organized in Weber and Salt Lake counties and growers' signatures have been secured, representing a total of about 50 acres. Utah normally grows between 300 and 400 acres of celery each year, but most of it is consumed within the State. This is the largest systematic attempt thus far made to develop carlot shipments.

The celery grown in Utah is of a distinctive type of excellent quality, withthick, fleshy branches and almost stringless. The seed was brought originally from China by Chinese growers who, by jealously guarding the seed supply, were able for some years to monopolize production. This monopoly has been broken, but the bulk of the crop continues to be grown by Orientals. So popular has this type of celery proven locally that it is practically the only kind now grown. The Chamber of Commerce has attempted to popularize this celery outside the State by the celebration of "Celery Week" every November, during which time thousands of parcels are mailed by residents of the State to friends in other parts of the country. Carlot shipments of this type, thus far on the whole, have given disappointing returns.

It was planned at first to plant this type this season for carlot shipment. The difficulty of securing a sufficient supply of seed of good unmixed pedigree, however, proved a serious obstacle. The variety also has certain serious drawbacks from a commercial standpoint. It cannot be blanched successfully by the methods employed with the Golden Self-Blanching variety, but must be hilled with dirt. This not only entails much hand-labor, but necessitates wide spacing of rows, which means light yields. Two-thirds of a car per acre is considered a fair yield. Therefore it was decided to find, if possible, a variety that would resemble the Utah type in quality as closely as possible, but which could be more easily grown. Accordingly, arrangements are being made to secure seed of a type grown in Oregon, which is said to resemble Utah celery rather closely, but which blanches more easily. It is hoped to ship a high-quality product, carefully graded and uniformly packed, that will command top prices in the markets of the Middle West.

7a. PLANS FOR NEW TERMINAL IN PHILADELPHIA.

An editorial in Pennsylvania Farmer for March 6 says: "The plans of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company for improved terminal market facilities in Philadelphia will be good news to the fruit and produce shippers to this city. The company will build two immense buildings at the Delaware River, each 650 feet long, where 100 freight cars may be unloaded at one time. Cold storage facilities will be provided where produce may be stored until needed, and provision made for conducting sales by the auction method. Surely, this is a move in the right direction. The present method of piling unloaded produce in small rooms and on the sidewalks around the produce markets, where it must be sold at once and in a more or less haphazard way, is highly unsatisfactory and is one of the chief causes of gluts and low prices."

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. CELERY SITUATION AROUND SANFORD, FLA.

Under date of March 16, R. L. Sutton sent the following information regarding Seminole County celery:-

"Although the farmers around Sanford have received exceptionally good returns for their celery this season, the general quality has not been satisfactory. Even at this late date, the weather has not arrived at a comfortable stage. It is with pronounced slowness that celery will blanch during this cool weather. Freezing temperature was reached here this past Saturday night, but, due to the presence of quite a wind, the frost/damage was probably slight. However, to my knowledge, there has been no survey of the damage made in this section. One of the inspectors told me that he had examined buds on several orange trees, and had found the inner portion of the buds darkened in several instances. The most important connection that these low temperatures have with the celery crop is that the stock is kept from blanching. And it is an actual fact that some of the celery which has started to blanch is made green again. One of the most reliable shippers told me one of the main difficulties is that the growers insist on trying to 'bleach' celery which has not fully matured.

"The local market started to 'ease off' last Saturday, and today more sales were made at $3 than at any other figure. The shippers are not alarmed about selling for even money, for they could show a profit to the grower, if prices were lowered in the neighborhood of $2. However, the demand is decreasing, with some of the factors having difficulty in disposing of their outturn, and all of the shippers are finding it hard to move the large sizes. The pack-outs are showing quite large amounts of 2½ and 3-dozen sizes. Straight cars of these large sizes sell here at $2.50-2.75, and the shipper is only too glad for repeat orders at such figures."

2b. POTATOES BEING HARVESTED AROUND COLMA, CALIF.

C. J. Hansen, of the San Francisco office, submitted on March 11 the following report regarding early potatoes in the Colma district of California:-

"The early potato crop at Colma is coming along very fine, and quite a few of the growers anticipate being able to dig some fields by March 15. They expect to be able to harvest in volume about the 1st of April.

"The acreage of Garnet Chili potatoes this year will be around 4,300, of which approximately 3,400 are located in the Colma district. The balance of the acreage is divided between Watsonville and Salinas. Last year, considerable Bliss Triumph seed from the East was used and these potatoes were sold for Garnets. The growers had very poor success with them, and this year all the plantings are from Oregon Garnet Chili seed."

GOING UP! Potato prices are soaring this week in many markets. Today, Philadelphia reported Florida Spaulding Rose, U. S. No. 1 grade, as $17-$18 per barrel, and U. S. No. 2 at $15-$16, with No. 3 grade bringing $8. Maine Green Mountains touched top of $5.35 per 100 pounds in Philadelphia, and the general price level of old potatoes was well above $5 per 100 pounds.

3b. SUMMARY OF ALABAMA CABBAGE DEAL.

The latest summary of a field deal to be issued from Washington office is THE ALABAMA CABBAGE DEAL, Season of 1925, by W. H. Mosier. The summary opens with an historical sketch of the cabbage and with a description of the producing section in southwestern Alabama. Freight and icing charges are given from Mobile to 18 prominent markets. The body of this summary is made up of the usual statistical tables.

4b. 1925 SHIPMENTS IN STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

A preliminary summary, recently issued by H. A. Harris, of the Los Angeles office, indicates that 240,987 cars of 36 fruits and vegetables were shipped from California points during the year 1925. There were 75,600 cars of grapes, 34,632 cars of oranges, 21,389 cars of lettuce, 16,502 cars of can[illegible]es, 12,749 cars of peaches, and 11,645 cars of lemons, in addition to smaller quantities (26 to 8,700 cars each) of the other 30 products.

5b. POTATOES AND ONIONS IN CLEVELAND.

A letter of March 17, written by Ray C.Bish, of Cleveland, to R. H. Shoemaker, of the Grand Rapids office, includes the following information:-

"With regard to the quotations on Michigan potatoes, would advise that the receipts which have been coming in recently from Michigan are purchased by one of the large chain stores, The Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Co., and for that reason the stock does not enter into trading on the street. As soon as I hear of any Michigan potatoes being sold on the street, I shall endeavor to include such quotations in the wire. I do not know the reason why so few cars of Michigan stock have been received, excepting perhaps the f.o.b. price has been higher than the dealers thought they could realize on the potatoes delivered to Cleveland. This week we have had potatoes coming from quite a variety of producing sections, namely: Minnesota, Wisconsin, Idaho, Colorado, New York, and Canada, together with what is being trucked in locally, but there seem to be practically no Michigans being sold in a jobbing way. The potato market is quite firm here at the present time. One car of York State Rurals brought $7.25 for 150-pound sacks, and today they were sold at $7.00.

"Onions also are showing considerable strength, as two cars were loaded out of cold storage here, at $3.25 f.o.b. Cleveland, and shipped east. About a week ago, I was quoting onions at $2.25-$2.50, and today the jobbing price on the best stock is $3.50. There still remains in storage here quite a liberal supply, but a large portion of this stock is of only ordinary quality and of medium size. One receiver, working jointly with a shipper at Silver Lake, Indiana, - according to reports, - had in storage here 125 cars. Because of this fact, there has been in the past a bearish feeling on the Cleveland onion market, although other markets were 50¢-75¢ higher."

OUR FRUIT AND VEGETABLE DIVISION expects to have quite an exhibit at the Sesqui-Centennial Exposition, to be held in Philadelphia from June to December. Every branch of the Division will be represented.

6b. ASPARAGUS SITUATION IN CALIFORNIA.

With regard to the market news service and the general asparagus situation in California, C. J. Hansen, of San Francisco, wrote as follows on March 20:-

"We are daily telephoning the asparagus shippers and growers throughout this section of the State, and sending wires to the Imperial Valley. As yet we have not started securing or publishing any destinations. I am undecided whether this will be of much material benefit to the shippers, unless movement reaches a point above normal absorption.

"All of the shippers appear to be enthused and appreciate the work which we are doing. They have subscribed, to date, approximately $500 towards this service. The long-distance telephone calls, no doubt, will run them considerable expense.

"Weather the past week has been ideal for asparagus growing, not too warm and not too cold, but an equitable temperature. If you will notice, the season this year was almost two weeks later than last year in starting. However, shipments to date are considerably more than they were for the same period last season. The quality of the asparagus this year so far is very good, and unless we have some extremely warm weather or heavy rains, as we did last year, the season, without a doubt, will be more successful financially."

7b. EXCHANGE PLACES MAN IN EASTERN MARKETS.

An editorial in The Blue Anchor (Sacramento) for March says: "It has become increasingly apparent, with the volume of deciduous fruit shipments now moving from California, that the organization which makes a special intensive effort to study the demands of the trade and the preferences of the markets, will secure the business, while those shippers who are interested only in pursuing the old methods, which have been in vogue for the last 20 years, are bound to be eliminated in the competition. Every fruit man from California who has visited the East during the last three years has returned with the same message, namely: that only quality packs will continue to secure the attention of the buyers who are sustaining the market, and that mediocre fruit will suffer when compared with the better article. The California Fruit Exchange has been one of the first organizations to grasp this essential point and to put its conclusions in tangible form through the selection of a well-qualified representative, who will be located on the eastern markets through the shipping season for the purpose of studying in detail the condition of the fruit upon arrival and reporting promptly to associations and growers just what is found, together with suggestions for improvement. It is the hope that, as the season approaches, one man will be appointed to devote his time exclusively to tree fruit, while another will be engaged solely in the grape deal."

8b. MIMEOGRAPHED REPORTS STARTED ON ASPARAGUS.

On Monday, March 15, the Washington office began issuing daily mimeographed reports on Asparagus. Similar reports also may be published by the San Francisco office, for the benefit of growers and shippers in the Delta section.

9b. DO NOT USE "NO.1" OR "NO.2" GRADES IN POTATO WIRES.

With new potatoes again on the market, the attention of all reporters is directed to 1-b in D.L. for March 13, 1925, headed "Description of Potatoes in Market Reports." As stated there, the terms "No.1" and "No.2" should never be used in the potato reports. Where stock is below grade, use descriptive phrases as grade terms. If the potatoes meet size requirements, "PEWAB size" should also be used.

10b. CODING BARREL CRATES IN CABBAGE WIRES.

A number of reporters have recently included in their cabbage wires, under stock from one State, both "KOF" (barrel crates) and "KOH" (barrel crates, approximately 80 lbs. net). The usual method of describing barrel crates of cabbage is by "KOF" (net weight not given). However, when it is desired to call attention to a contrast in the sizes of different crates, because they sell at different prices, one of the code words which gives the approximate net weight should be used for each of the crates. Barrel crates, with approximate net weights, run from "KOH" to "KON", on the "KO" page of code.

11b. LATER NEWS ABOUT FLORIDA CELERY.

In a later letter, written March 22, R. L. Sutton gave the following additional report on the celery situation at Sanford, Fla.:-

"Looks like we are going to have a lower market here this week. Today conditions are rather unsettled, with most sales of the more-desirable sizes being made at $2.75 per crate. This week should witness the peak movement of the season. To March 22, exclusive, there have moved 1992 cars of celery from the Sanford district. Today the loading will be approximately 60 cars, making the total to date reach the neighborhood of 2050 cars. Through March 22, last season, there had been shipped 1,125 more cars than have rolled this season. Under favorable weather conditions, we have estimated the outturn for this week at 425 to 450 cars, and that this will be the heaviest week of the deal.

"Large sizes are still being discounted. Some of the shippers are at a loss to understand why their large-sized celery is being discounted, when the identical sizes of California stock are taken at no discount. The California crate, 5-dozen size, is exactly same sized stock as the Sanford 2½-dozen. I believe the reason large sizes from the West are not discounted is that the stock is much whiter than that from Florida. The appearance obtains the preference in the trade's eyes."

12b. MARKET NEWS SERVICE IN TEXAS.

J.A. Hunter has written a special article, describing the cooperative Market News Service in Texas. He concludes with a summary of the work done during the month of February, as follows:

"About 10,430 words were telegraphed from Fort Sam Houston to Fort Brown; 32,000 words were placed on Associated Press wires; 140 collect telegrams, totaling in excess of 5,000 words, were sent in answer to requests for information; 40,000 words were broadcast by voice from Station WOAI; 10,000 market sheets were issued, while 147,148 words were sent and received on the leased wire to and from the San Antonio office. All this was for the shortest month in the year, - February."

E. W. STILLWELL, Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

STATIONS	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably will close
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	Mrs.L.B.Gerry	Apples	Aug.24	Apr.3
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO 230 Federal Bldg.	845	W.F.Cox	Potatoes	Sept.2	Apr.15
ROCHESTER, N.Y.** 419 Triangle Bldg.	837	H.S.Duncan A.L.Thomas	Apples Pears* Cabbage* Onions Peaches* Celery* Potatoes Grapes* Carrots	Sept.4 Sept.4 Sept.4 Sept.14 Sept.14 Sept.16 Sept.16 Sept.21 Sept.23	May 15 Oct.31* Mar.12* Apr.15 Oct.3* Jan.23* May 15 Oct.31* Apr.15
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. 419 Federal Bldg. MAIL: P.O. Box 86	895	R.H.Shoemaker	Apples* Potatoes Onions*	Oct.7 Oct.7 Oct.7	Nov.24* June 1 Mar.20*
ORLANDO, FLA.** 20 Phillips Bldg. MAIL: P.O. Box 188	920	R.H.Lamb	Citrus Fruit	Nov.2	Apr.15
EL CENTRO, CALIF. Barbara Worth Hotel	933	C.E.Schultz	Lettuce	Jan.4	Apr.2
SANFORD, FLA.** Court House	910	R.L.Sutton	Celery	Jan.22	Apr.10
BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS** Chamber of Commerce	931	J.D.Evers	Cabbage Beets & Carrots Potatoes Stg.Beans Tomatoes	Feb.1 Feb.1 Mar.29 Apr.1 Apr.15	May 1 May 1 May 1 May 1 May 1
HAMMOND, LA.	802	W.H.Mosier	Berries	Mar.29	May 15
The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:					
LAREDO, TEXAS**	801	A.E.Prugh	Onions	Apr.1	May 8
HASTINGS, FLA.**	851	R.L.Sutton	Potatoes	Apr.15	May 22
The following stations close on dates indicated:					Closed
PRESQUE ISLE, ME. Graves Hardware Block	842	H.E.Rutland	Potatoes	Sept.8	Mar.26
WAUPACA, WIS.** Court House	894	W.H.Mosier W.G. Lensen	Potatoes	Sept.14	Mar.27

** State cooperating. * Reports discontinued.

A.E.Prugh on leave at Radnor, Ohio. H.E. Rutland on leave en route Chicago.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. EARLY SEASON AND HEAVY CROPS EXPECTED IN NORTHWEST.

In a recent communication, R. L. Ringer, of the Portland office, said: "Everything is set for bumper crops of all kinds of berries, tree fruits, and early vegetables, in the Pacific Northwest. The season will be early, if no change occurs. Even the aphids are out in force already." An attached clipping, from a northwestern newspaper, reads as follows:

"VANCOUVER, Wash., March 18 - The early blooming record of 34 years was broken this year by prune trees in the orchard of A. A. Quarnberg. The trees were in full bloom yesterday, and the earliest previous record was in 1900, when the blooms ppened on March 21. Last year, the trees bloomed on March 26. Mr. Quarnberg's record dates back to 1892. Prune trees in all parts of the county are beginning to show white, and the Prunarians will hold the blossom day parade on March 28."

2c. MANY INSPECTIONS ON APPLES IN WEST VIRGINIA.

More than 60% of the carlot barreled apple shipments made in West Virginia last season were inspected at the shipping point by the Federal-State Inspection Service, according to the State repott. They believe this is a record among the States for the proportion of the crop inspedted. Of the 1,091 cars inspected, not a car had the grade, as stated on the certificate, reversed in the receiving market. Every indication points to a growing interest and demand for inspection work in the State, the authorities believe. Inspections are made and paid for at a fixed rate, at the request of a party who has a financial interest in the product.

3c. ARKANSAS INSPECTION WORK GETTING GOOD START.

The State Plant Board of Arkansas, which administers the standardization and inspection law in that State, is getting organized under the law which went into effect last year. Owing to lack of funds the work has not progressed very fast, but George C. Becker, Chief Inspector, thinks they have made a good start. Inspections last season included about 600 cars of peaches, 200 cars of cantaloupes, 100 cars of grapes and 70 cars of apples. The poor season, which resulted in few apples in Northwest Arkansas being good enough to pass the grades, is the reason for the few cars of apples inspected, Mr. Becker says. In spite of the high cost of the apple inspections made, he has already received word from one apple association that they will want inspection again this season, because the apples which were inspected last year brought the best returns.

Arrangements have been made for the Federal- State inspection of every car and package of produce going out of Crawford County, Arkansas, this year, Mr. Becker announces. The deal is possible because practically all the produce moving out of this county is handled by a few dealers. These dealers have agreed to buy nothing this season unless it passes at least grade No. 2, of the United States standards. It is planned to handle express shipments, as well as carlots. Several hundred cars of tomatoes in other parts of the State, which are controlled by one of the Crawford County dealers, will also be inspected as part of the deal.

The next two items are from Shipping-Point Inspectors' Letter No. 21, issued by F. E. Bailey on March 18 for Oregon and Washington men:

4c. APPLE INVESTIGATIONS IN STATE OF WASHINGTON.

In a latter, written on March 15, O. M. Morris, Head of the Department of Horticulture, Washington Experiment Station, outlines the work on apple maturity and storage, which is being conducted by the station staff:

"The project on apple storage work here is primarily divided into three sections: Dr. Neller and the Chemistry Division are carrying on the work in a study of the chemical composition of the apple in the different stages of storage and ripening. In this work, Dr. Neller is endeavoring to find some way that a measuring stick may be developed, that can be used in determining quality of fruit, and relating that quality to the physical characters, in studying sugar content, starch content, and various other materials. I do not know all of the materials he is considering.

"Another phase of the work which is being carried on by Prof. Overley is that of the relation existing between date of harvest and quality of fruit. For instance, this past season Mr. Overley gathered fruit from an orchard near Grandview, beginning some weeks prior to regular harvest date and continuing weekly pickings until some weeks after the regular harvest date. All of this material was measured in every way we know how to measure fruit, and placed in storage. Careful notes are being made on it during its storage life. Prof. Overley is cooperating in this also with Dr. Neller.

"I am working on the storage life of the fruit and the quality of the fruit; also on the storage quality of the fruit as modified by different orchard practices, such as early and late irrigation, tree vigor, fruit characteristics, amount of fruit load carried by the trees, temperature during harvest period, delayed storage, etc., and I am also attempting in a preliminary way to get at some simple form of measuring the fruit to determine its storage life without destroying it."

Professor Morris states that, in studying the storage life of the fruit, they are taking up such problems as temporary heating in storage, and they hope in another year to take up the effects of freezing in storage, doing work similar to that recently done with eastern apples and reported by the Cornell Experiment Station in Memoir 81, "Freezing Injury of Fruit."

5c. MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS ON NORTHWESTERN INSPECTIONS.

According to reports received from Mr. Griner's office, the following numbers of cooperative shipping-point certificates have been issued in Washington: Dec., 1,600; Jan., 1,328; Feb., 1,563; total July 1, 1925 to February 28, 1926: 20,980.

During January, cooperative certificates were issued on Oregon products as follows: Apples, 48; cabbage, 35; potatoes, 86; onions, 33. Total number of cars certified from July 1 to January 31 was 4,613.

A REVISED Shipping-Point Inspection Directory for the States of Washington and Oregon was published by F. E. Bailey, under date of March 17. This supersedes the first Directory, issued on February 11. Copies of the new list can be obtained from the Spokane office.

The next five items are from California Inspectors' Notes No. 12, [illegible]

6c. IMPERIAL VALLEY LETTUCE AND COACHELLA ONIONS.

Tip burn, slime and worm injury are becoming characteristic of much of the Imperial Valley lettuce, according to word received from that district. There is very little good stock at present, though some of the young stuff may come on better, weather permitting. With the poor quality and high prices which are prevalent, inspections poabably will be low for a time. Imperial cantaloupe acreage is said to be in excess of 33,000; watermelons, 3,500 acres, and tomatoes 1,000 to 1,500 acres.

Ed. Powell writes that a revised estimate of the Coachella onion plantings is 2,100 acres. The crop is in fair condition, with some loss on account of thrips, as usual.

7c. HAYWARD SHOWS CREDITABLE AVERAGE.

With the Hayward broccoli deal drawing to a close, K. R. Nutting sent in the following statement on his weekly report for March 13: "438 cars were inspected to date, man days 185, averaging 2.36. With the exception of 5 cars, all of these shipments were broccoli. Every car shipped from the district was Federal-State inspected, except one car of mixed vegetables." There is still lots of stock in the fields, but the quality and price are so low that it is unprofitable to handle it.

8c. KERN COUNTY CROP OUTLOOK.

Whit. Barber says the Kern County potato deal should open May 25. There are about 2,000 acres of potatoes this year. Cantaloupes and watermelons are estimated at 1,000 acres each, mostly in the north end of the county around Richgrove and Delano. About 50 acres of cantaloupes are near Lerdo. There are said to be 32,700 acres of cotton in the county.

9c. ARE CELERY WORMS' APPETITES WHETTED BY COLD?

Celery worms might be expected to thrive in the climate for which San Diego is famous, but actual experiments were required to prove that they are equally at home in a frigid SFRD. Elwood Collins has just completed such an experiment at Chula Vista, in order to explain why several cars, which showed only 20% to 25% worm injury there, showed 50% to 65% worm damage upon arrival at destination.

Test crates of celery, absolutely free from damage but well populated with worms, were placed in an iced refrigerator for 24 hours. When removed from the car, nearly all the branches of the celery showed slight or serious injury, some of the spots being "as large as half a dollar." Instead of objecting to the change of temperature, the worms evidently enjoy the bracing air of the refrigerator. Their appetites are ravenous at least, as Elwood has so conclusively proved.

POTATO INSPECTION DEAL in Aroostook County, Maine, probably will be completed within the next few weeks.

10c. PEDDLERS CAUGHT SELLING "DINKIED" APPLE PACKS.

Making 7 boxes of "packed" apples out of 6, is the latest peddling scheme to make profits at the expense of the unsuspecting housewife, according to word just received from Ralph Hooper.

Prohibition agents have nothing on Standardization Inspector Frank Kramer, of Los Angeles County, when it comes to tracking down violators of the law. On the lookout for a gang of apple peddlers from Salt Lake, who have recently been the cause of numerous complaints, Mr. Kramer spotted a suspicious-looking truck, leaving the L. A. Wholesale Terminal at 6 a.m. Following the truck to a large field in a remote part of the city, Mr. Kramer saw the two occupants stop and remove the bottoms from the boxes of packed apples. After taking out part of the contents, the bottom three layers were jumbled, so as to take up as much space as possible and the boxes nailed up as before. The hucksters then drove toward Huntington Park, to beguile bargaining housewives with their camouflage "standard pack".

Mr. Kramer nabbed them in the act of selling a box, and, upon checking up found that it contained only 94 apples instead of 113, as marked, and that many of them were rotten. This subterfuge, which was general throughout the whole truckload, enabled them to sell 7 boxes where they had bought only 6, and it is thought also that some cull stock was added in making up the "fill", as 20% of decayed apples were found in some of the lower portions.

Under pretext of getting in touch with the wholesaler, the peddlers werepersuaded to drive to the Huntington Park City Hall, where Mr. Kramer asked the Chief of Police to lock them up, while he swore out a complaint.

The two peddlers, who gave their names as Olsen and Gates, were tried Wednesday, found guilty, and given fines of $50 with six months in county jail, sentence suspended for one year. They were fined only $10 cash, in view of the fact that they had already spent five days in the county jail, pending their trial. The rest of this peddling gang is said to have left town.

11c. INSPECTING ON WEIGHT BASIS.

The attention of all inspectors is called to the specifications of many of our grades, which require tolerances to be determined on a weight basis, rather than a count basis. Several cases have been called to my attention in the last two or three months, where receiving-point inspectors were making determinations by count instead of by weight. Please follow regulations carefully in this respect, so that your work may not be subject to criticism.

12c. REVISED GRADES FOR STRAWBERRIES.

With this D. L., each inspector will receive a copy of the revised U. S. grades for strawberries.

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

STANDARDIZATION AND RESEARCH

1d. MR. SAMSON'S NORTHWESTERN VISIT.

In his latest issue of the Shipping-Point Inspectors' Letter, F. E. Bailey, of the Spokane office, gives the following itinerary and other information regarding Mr. Samson's conferences in the Northwest. Mr. Samson is due to reach Boise, Idaho, by April 1:

April 1st: He will confer with prune growers at some point in the Boise Valley, regarding the U. S. grades for fresh plums and prunes.

April 3rd: At Walla Walla, he will confer with the prune growers of the Walla Walla Valley, regarding some changes in the U. S. grades which the growers of the Valley desire. He may also discuss with cherry growers the desirability of drafting some grades for this commodity.

April 5th: (Morning) - At Clarkston, he will confer with cherry growers of that district. (Afternoon) - He will confer with lettuce growers at Lewiston, regarding revisions in the U.S. lettuce grades desired by the growers.

April 7th: At Kennewick and Pasco, conferences will be held with asparagus and cantaloupe growers. These conferences will be State-wide, in so far as growers from other districts wish to attend them.

April 8th: At Grandview, Mr. Samson will confer with the grape growers of the Yakima Valley, regarding grades for the American-type grapes grown there.

April 9th and probably April 10th: He will spend at Yakima on various details of the work of the Fruit and Vegetable Division.

April 12th and 13th: At Portland, he will confer with the Oregon State Board of Horticulture, at its regular annual meeting, on grade matters of interest to the horticultural industry of Oregon.

April 14th: He will visit the Director of Agriculture at Olympia and other Puget Sound points, probably conferring with some lettuce shippers regarding the U.S. grades.

April 15th and 16th: At Wenatchee, Mr. Samson will confer with shippers and others interested in the work of the Division.

All of the grade conferences mentioned above will be held in cooperation with the various State Departments of Agriculture concerned.

It was planned originally to make the asparagus, cantaloupe and grape conferences in the Yalima Valley official State grade hearings for the adoption of compulsory State grades for these commodities, under the new law passed at the last session of the State legislature. As the new law does not take effect in time to permit official hearings on these dates, the conferences which Mr. Samson will attend will be of a preliminary nature and the official hearings will be duly called later in the month or early in May.

Mr. Samson also has been requested to confer with various groups in the Northwest on the arsenical spray residue situation in England, and probably several such conferences will be held, although no definite plans for these will be made until after his arrival.

Leaving the Northwest, Mr. Samson will go to California and spend some time there, working with officials of the State Department of Agriculture. On his return east, he will probably visit Colorado and other States.

R. R. PAILTHORP,
Marketing Specialist.

OFFICE NOTES:

W. H. Hall, of the Chicago market news office, has returned from Rochester, Minn., but is taking a rest from his official duties for at least one month, according to advice of physicians. He is at his home in Maywood, Ill.

For the present, H. T. Longino is working in the vicinity of Asherton, Texas, instead of Crystal City. Recent rains have affected the quality of vegetables in that section, and much of the stock will not meet grade requirements. Mr. Longino probably will be located at Asherton, until the onion-inspection deal begins at Crystal City in April.

Robert Bier has returned from South Carolina, and H.W. Schneck, who was to handle asparagus inspections around Williston, S. C., has returned to the Atlanta office. At the last moment, the Board of Directors of the Asparagus Growers' Association cancelled arrangements made by the manager for shipping-point inspection.

After closing the Presque Isle field station today, H. E. Rutland expects to go on a period of leave, and later may report for duty in the Chicago office of the News Service. It is rumored that a honeymoon is planned. Market reports on potatoes, which had been published at Presque Isle, will be continued on a thrice-weekly basis from the Boston office.

W. G. Lensen, who operated the Waupaca field station on potatoes this week, to enable W. H. Mosier to go to Hammond, La., will return to his headquarters in Chicago by Monday. The first car of Louisiana strawberries is expected to move on Monday, March 29.

C. E. Schultz wired from El Centro that warm weather in the Imperial Valley has caused many fields of lettuce to deteriorate rapidly, and the deal probably will close about April 2. He plans to close the El Centro field station on that date, and then go to the Los Angeles office, to write his summary and assist with local work.

W. E. Lewis made a brief visit to the spinach section around Norfolk, Va., in company with F. Earl Parsons, of the Virginia State staff, the first part of this week. Investigations were made with a view to possible revision of the U. S. grades for spinach.

On a recent postal card, received from a grower in California, Mr. Samson was addressed as :"Prof. H. W. Samson, Poison Spray Government Expert."

Miss Mayme C. Parker, who is now the editor of The B.A.E. News, was a member of the Fruit and Vegetable Division from 1916 to 1924.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 7, NO. 14
April 2, 1926.
(Contents Confidential)

1a. NEW JERSEY STUDENTS INSTRUCTED IN APPLE GRADING.

Nine vocational schools located in various sections of New Jersey participated in the series of apple-grading demonstrations which have been held by the State Department of Agriculture. This work is continuing on a new and broader scale, said Secretary Duryee, the efforts of the Department being to acquaint the younger generation of farmers with standard grades of farm products that are now demanded by consumers in large markets. The demonstrations, which were conducted by the State Department, followed a request from Mr. H. O. Sampson, State supervisor of agricultural education in the New Jersey public schools.

The instruction stressed the importance of standard grading and packing of apples from the standpoint of economic necessity, together with methods of meeting competition from other producing sections. The New Jersey-United States standard apple grades which specify a Fancy, No. 1, No. 2, and No. 3 were explained and demonstrated. In each demonstration a quantity of apples conforming to the requirements of each grade was used and the boys were actually shown just what each grade should consist of. The students also were informed and instructed as to the various injuries and diseases of apples, such as insect injury, scab, leaf roller, lesser apple worm, scale and various forms of scald and decay.

2a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR MARCH 27:

Page 197 - Green pea shipments. (filler)
- Special paragraphs on potatoes in the weekly review.
198 - Idaho Potatoes in Early March, - by W. F. Cox.
201 - Arrivals of Cuban eggplant. (filler)
203 - Future Chinese Peanut Exports to be Small.
208 - Egyptian Onion Shipments.
- Good Quality Apples in Demand on British Markets.

3a. NEW BOOKLET ON AUCTION SALES.

The Fruit Auction Company, New York City, has begun to issue periodically a booklet entitled: "Fruitaco Standard." Vol. 1, No. 1, is dated March, 1926. Admer Miller, formerly of our F. & V. Division but now associated with this Company, probably has much to do with the preparation and publication of this booklet. The first issue contains an article by him on "Destination Sales a Sound Policy."

4a. ADDITIONAL REPORTS ON FOREIGN MARKETS.

The Foreign Marketing Section has just released two reports: F. S.: F-16, "British Empire Competition with American Dried Fruits." F.S.:AL-14, "Favorable Reports on Mediterranean Almond Crop."

5a. CARLOT UNLOADS OF POTATOES IN PENNSYLVANIA CITIES.

Donald M. James, of the Harrisburg office, has prepared for the press a series of interesting reports on unloads in 15 Pennsylvania markets. The data apply primarily to the year 1925. Just as a sample of the contents of these releases, we are printing below Mr. James' first report, which is on potatoes:-

Pennsylvania producers supplied almost 500 more cars of potatoes to 15 of the larger markets within the State in 1925 than in 1924, according to a report compiled from railroad records by the Bureau of Markets, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. The 3,415 cars received during the year from State loading points exceeded the average of the past four years by 650 cars.

The total receipts for the entire year at the 15 markets amounted to 15,337 cars, the smallest total during the past five years. This decrease is chiefly due to the improved quality of Pennsylvania potatoes and to the decided increase in motor trucking for short distances.

New York State ranked second as a source of supply, 2,499 cars being reported, as compared with 2,361 a year ago, half of these being sold at Philadelphia. Receipts from Maine practically doubled during the year, 2,098 cars arriving in the whole State, with 1,571 reported at Philadelphia.

The steady decline in supplies from the North-Central States is a significant fact indicated by these records. During 1925, Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and the Dakotas furnished only 858 cars, while they supplied 1,632 cars in 1924 and 3,605 cars in 1923. Low prices during the spring of 1925, relatively high freight charges, and the improvement in quality of Pennsylvania potatoes have contributed to this change.

Virginia ranked third as a source of supply, furnishing 2,395 cars, practically the same quantity as in the previous year. Owing to the small crop in New Jersey and the great increase in motor trucking, the receipts during the year amounted to only 656 cars, compared with 1,447 the preceding year. Most of this decrease was in the Philadelphia market, where only two cars were reported received from New Jersey by rail as against 650 in 1924.

The receipts from the extreme southern States, which market their crop during April, May and June, showed the same increase that has prevailed in previous years. Florida led this group with 1,073 cars, South Carolina ranking next with 877, and North Carolina following with 617 cars.

6a. PENNSYLVANIA GRADES FOR CERTIFIED SEED POTATOES.

Grades for certified seed potatoes in Pennsylvania were formally adopted on March 15, by the State Bureau of Markets, Director P. R. Taylor announces. These grades are based on the uniform specifications recommended by the Potato Association of America. The grades include one for graded and sized stock, to be known as "Pennsylvania Certified Seed Grade," and one for ungraded stock, grown under field inspection, to be known as "Pennsylvania Field Certified Seed Grade." Under the Certified Seed Grade, three sizes are established, to be known as "Standard Size," "Small Size," and "Combination Size."

7a. FROST DAMAGE TO NORTH CAROLINA PEACHES.

In reply to an inquiry from Delaware, the following information on frost damage in North Carolina was furnished by A. E. Mercker, Supervising Inspector at Raleigh, on March 25.

One of the companies handling peaches states that the severe cold weather of March 13 to 15 killed 30% of all the buds. Another association advises that approximately 50% of the Hiley buds had been killed, and some Elbertas and Hales near the end of the branches, but that prospects still indicate a good crop. A third peach exchange reports that there was a slight kill of the buds in the Hileys, Elbertas and Hales, but that a good crop is expected. The North Carolina peach trees bloomed two weeks later than last season, and shipments of Georgia peaches and Elbertas probably will not begin in heavy volume until July 20 ob 25, provided the trees suffer no more frost. Blossoms were out in full on March 25.

8a. SMALLPOX EPIDEMIC UNDER CONTROL IN LOS ANGELES.

Writing from Los Angeles on March 23, Mr. Harris made the following comments on the smallpox scare in that city:-

"The smallpox epidemic, which has been mentioned in recent correspondence, has been prevalent over most of the State since the first of the year. It is probably worse in Los Angeles on account of our nearness to the International Line, our large Mexican population, and the fact that this disease is more or less endemic in Mexico. It has appeared in a very virulent form, with an accompanying death rate of about 20% of those taking the deasease.

"The Board of Health reports indicate that there have been nearly 700 cases in Los Angeles since the 1st of the year, with a considerable dropping off since March 1. A campaign has been conducted to induce all, who had not been vaccinated within five years, to be vaccinated, which resulted in about 300,000 people taking this precaution up to the middle of this month. Latest reports show that the progress of the disease has been checked in all parts of the city except the Mexican quarters and those districts where various organizations have been conducting an active campaign of anti-vaccination propaganda."

9a. HASTINGS POTATOES DELAYED.

A bulletin of late March, put out by one of the leading potato growers' associations at Hastings, Fla., indicates that the freeze of March 13 did considerable damage to the potato crop in the Hastings section. They figured that the crop would likely be reduced 15% or 20%, but rains during the week beginning March 21 relieved the situation to some extent. Warmer weather during that period also improved conditions. Movement of the crop has been delayed, with occasional cars expected about April 12 to 15, but with no heavy movement until April 19 and peak shipments between May 10 and 20. The crop will not be cleaned up until the early part of June, according to this local estimate. At the time of the report, conditions were very favorable to good quality potatoes.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. GOOD RESULTS FROM NEW YORK CIRCULARIZATION.

In a recent circularization of the New York City mailing list, W. H. Stanton sent letters to 1,309 individuals or firm. Replies were received from 999 subscribers, or about 76% of the total. Of this number, 987, or about 75% of all to whom letters were sent, requested a continuance of the daily market reports from New York City. Only 12 indicated that they wished the reports discontinued to their respective addresses.

One of the questions in Mr. Stanton's circular letter was this:- "Do You Listen to Our Radio Reports? Noon, (WEAF); 5:30 (WJZ); 6:10 (WNYC)." Subscribers were asked to indicate which radio stations's reports they heard, and were requested to make comments or criticisms on this service. There were 294 replies to this question, which is nearly 30% of the total replies received. Many of the answers regarding radio reports came from distant points, including cities in Georgia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, West Virginia, Louisiana, Idaho, California, Cuba and Mexico. Most of the replies, of course, were from Greater New York or Long Island or up-State points. Many commendations were made of this radio news service. To give tangible evidence to the managers of the radio stations, copies of the replies were made and segregated on the basis of stations, and these copies were furnished to the three respective managers.

2b. ADDITIONAL SERVICES IN CINCINNATI.

For each Thursday's issue of the Cincinnati Times-Star, J. G. Scott is now writing an interesting discussion, under the heading: "Marketing Talks for Housewives." One of the staff artists designed a special illustrated heading for this column, which gives it a very attractive appearance. Mr. Scott's name appears in this heading, as Cincinnati Representative, U. S. Market News Service. Alongside the "Marketing Talks" is a column of questions and answers. Questions on fruits and vegetables are answered by Mr. Scott, while those on other products are answered on the basis of Dept. publications.

Arrangements also have been made for broadcasting through Station WLW the "Uncle Bert Gardening Talks" each Wednesday at 5 P.M. and the "Fifty Farm Flashes" each Thursday at 4:30 P.M.

The following example is given of the value of the daily radio market reports, and it also shows how shippers as far away as Florida benefit from this service: "This monning," wrote Mr. Scott on March 23, "one of our Sixth Street dealers called me in and showed me a letter from a shipper in Plant City, Fla., in which the following statement was given: 'From the Radio Market Reports received from Station WLW, I believe that Cincinnati is a good strawberry market at the present time, and, while I have never done any business with your firm before, I am informed that you handle many berries and am shipping you six pony refrigerators by express to-night.'"

Mr. Scott has received many complimentary letters, concerning the illustrated mimeographed pamphlet, which he issued on Cincinnati as a fruit and vegetable market and distribution center. (See D.L., Mar. 12, Par. 8b.)

3b. STRAWBERRY SITUATION IN LOUISIANA.

After his arrival at Hammond, La., W. H. Mosier wrote on March 27 as follows:

"Prospects for the season are fairly good, providing the weather is favorable from now on. However, it has been raining almost every day for the last two weeks and the fields are very wet. Yesterday, the sky cleared and the thermometer dropped to 40° last night, which is a poor combination for strawberries. The plants are in good condition and heavily fruited. Many of the berries are white and a little sun and warm weather will start the deal with a rush. The first car probably will be loaded and sold at auction on Monday, March 29. Yesterday about 400 crates were shipped by express, and in all probability about 600 will be handled in the same manner today. The price is holding steady at $6.00 per crate of 24 pints. As in the past, the two auction companies will control the major portion of the tonnage, divided in the ratio of 65% and 30%, while the remaining 5% will be independent."

4b. UNUSUAL SUMMARY IS MUCH APPRECIATED.

Recently the San Francisco office compiled and published a summary of the 1925 California asparagus deal. This is the first time that asparagus has been discussed in this manner, and the summary has aroused considerable interest. In writing Mr. Hansen a letter of thanks, the District Agent of the California Packing Corporation, at Vorder, said in part: "Have never seen anything like it (this summary) attempted or accomplished successfully. It is very comprehensive and ifformative. Have recommended it to many of the asparagus growers and shippers in this district and have heard many favorable comments on the booklet. Many who did not know of your market report servide are now aware of it."

A leading dealer in Philadelphia also wrote as follows: "The summary is very much appreciated and has been read and studied by our entire force and is very educational, particularly as we make a specialty of asparagus and are heavy receivers of same. We furthermore will appreciate your market reports for the coming season."

5b. ONIONS BEING IMPORTED FROM AUSTRALIA.

C. J. Hansen, of the San Francisco office, wrote as follows in a letter of March 25:-

"The first supply of onions from Australia was received in San Francisco this week. The shipment consisted of 600 sacks of Australian Brown variety.

"The quality was very good and they were fully matured. Last year about this time, there were imported into San Francisco approximately 20 cars of onions, and they showed considerable decay, on account of the slight immaturity.

"California is not by any means cleaned up with its own onions, and these imports were brought in for special orders to supply the Alaska Canners Association during its fishing trip, as the imported onions keep considerably longer than the 'Buckskin' type of Australian Brown from California. The price in San Francisco, including freight and duty, amounted to $6.60 per cwt."

6b. HEAVY PRODUCTION OF ASPARAGUS IN CALIFORNIA.

Another letter of March 25, from C. J. Hansen, San Francisco, tells of the good growing weather for asparagus in the Delta section:-

"To show you the kind of growing weather we are now experiencing, one packer of asparagus told me over the telephone that he had cut 26 boxes of asparagus from one acre in one day. Normally, asparagus produces only one box per acre per day, a box holding approximately 45 or 50 pounds net. I would venture to say, however, that he will not be able to do this continually. Nevertheless, there will be a larger production of asparagus this year than the past two or three years, if the weather permits.

"At the present time, the large canners have limited their fresh shipments to a certain number of cars and the balance is going into cans, so as to not break the fresh asparagus market. Unless they can receive a price around $4.00 per crate delivered, they will lose money."

7b. ANOTHER PROOF OF VALUE OF RADIO REPORTS.

As an example of the way in which Colorado farmers are using the radio information, broadcast from Denver, to keep posted on the market, John D. Snow quotes the following telegram, sent by a country buyer to a potato firm in the city market: "Could not get car of reds. Too many radio reports of advancing prices. Will keep you advised."

Mr. Snow goes on to say: "It happens that there are certain spots around the State, where only a few cars of commercial-crop potatoes are grown and the shippers have always looked upon these sections as being so isolated that they could buy there at about 25¢ to 50¢ under the market. I now find that this apparently is no longer the case. I also find that most of the Denver dealers and shippers listen in regularly on our radio reports. The form of these reports has been changed recently, so that it now is a running story of the market, instead of the usual stereotyped information."

8b. SOUTH AMERICAN HONEY DEWS IN LOS ANGELES.

On March 23, H. A. Harris, of the Los Angeles office, sent the following report on Honey Dews in that city:-

"This market received last week a carload of Argentine Honey Dew melons, via New York. Small express shipments have been received from time to time in the past, but this is the first carlot ever received. They were packed in excelsior, six melons to the crate, the crates being very similar in size to the standard and jumbo crates used in shipments from this State. The melons sold slowly at $4.00-4.50 per crate, mostly to the hotel, club, and fancy restaurant trade."

9b. RIO GRANDE VALLEY POTATOES MOVING.

On a post card, dated March 26 at Brownsville, Texas, J. D. Evers wrote:- "First l.c.l. shipments of early potatoes left here on March 24 and 26, destined for Kansas City and Fort Worth respectively. The f.o.b. price has been set at 7¢ per pound, usual terms, 6½¢ cash track, and 6¢ to the grower."

10b. POTATOES, STRING BEANS AND CABBAGE FROM RIO GRANDE VALLEY.

In a letter of March 28 from Brownsville, Texas, J. D. Evers gave the following important information regarding various crops:-

"First shipments of early potatoes left here on Wednesday, March 24, for Kansas City in a mixed car and sold at 7¢ per pound, usual terms. Growers are receiving 6¢ per pound. The quality of the stock is excellent, and, according to reports from the local shippers, the potatoes benefited greatly from the heavy rains of last week. Under continued favorable weather conditions, the yield will be much heavier than that of last year and total shipments are expected to run over 1,000 cars. The first straight car will leave here either tomorrow or the day after.

"The first cars of Texas string beans left Mercedes and Weslaco by express last Thursday for St. Louis and New York. An offer of $4.00 per hamper was made on the car that was sent to St. Louis, but was refused. What the other car sold for, I do not know. Mixed cars yesterday sold mostly at $4.50 per bushel hamper. The quality of the stock, according to one shipper, is the poorest of any crop in the Valley. The acreage has shown quite an increase over last year and latest reports now indicate that total shipments will exceed those of last season and will run between 400 and 500 cars. The heavy rains caused some slight damage to those plants in the low lands, probably less than 5% in all. Most of the seed is obtained from the Lake States, chiefly New York and Michigan, and is usually planted a bushel to an acre in the high lands and 1½ bushels in the low lands. The rows are 2½ feet apart and the plants 18 inches apart. Plantings take place the last week in January and end the first week of March. No fertilizer or spraying is used on the crop.

"Several cars of string beans were imported from Mexico and were shipped out of Brownsville by express. I notice that, in the Weekly Summary of Carlot Shipments, these cars have been recorded as shipped out of Texas, as part of the first crop. This, I believe, is a mistake, and the cars should be recorded as imported from Mexico. About 16 cars arrived here in all and were shipped out to cities in the East and Middle West, the first car leaving Brownsville on March 15. These beans were raised in that section of Mexico between Brownsville and Tampico and shipped under ventilation to Brown White of San Benito. At Brownsville, after having passed inspection at the Customs House, they were shipped out by express. These beans were of the finest quality when they arrived here, but failed to hold up during shipment to the markets. It is believed that transferring from the ventilators to the refrigerators is partly responsible for this. Brown White refused anything less than $8.00 f.o.b. per bushel hamper for the second car that came through, but I notice that, according to the New York market on Wednesday, they sold from $1.00 to $4.00 per bushel hamper and were of poor to ordinary condition. The strange thing about these beans is that refrigerators were sent down into Mexico but the shippers sent the beans to Brownsville under ventilation only. It is my belief that, if they had been sent under refrigeration from point of origin, they would have brought high prices at consuming centers.

"The peak of the cabbage movement has been passed. The week of March 14, owing to the heavy rains, witnessed total shipments of only 245 cars and f.o.b. prices were high as $60-75 per ton. The following week, the total shipments were over 900 cars, and the price, on f.o.b. usual terms basis, dropped to $35-40 per ton. Shipments now exceed those of last season to date by approximately 300 cars. After this week, the movement out of both the Valley and the Corpus Christi section is expected to be much lighter, probably about 1,500 more cars moving out of both sections."

E. W. STILLWELL, Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

STATIONS	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably will close
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	Mrs.L.B.Gerry	Apples	Aug.24	Apr.30
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO 230 Federal Bldg.	845	W.F. Cox	Potatoes	Sept.2	Apr.15
ROCHESTER, N.Y.** 419 Triangle Bldg.	837	H.S.Duncan	Apples	Sept.4	May 15
		A.L.Thomas	Pears*	Sept.4	Oct.31*
			Cabbage*	Sept.4	Mar.12*
			Onions	Sept.14	Apr.15
			Peaches*	Sept.14	Oct.3*
			Celery*	Sept.16	Jan.23*
			Potatoes	Sept.16	May 15
			Grapes*	Sept.21	Oct.31*
			Carrots	Sept.23	Apr.15
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. 419 Federal Bldg. MAIL: P.O. Box 86	895	R.H.Shoemaker	Apples*	Oct.7	Nov.24*
			Potatoes	Oct.7	June 1
			Onions*	Oct.7	Mar.20*
ORLANDO, FLA.** 20 Phillips Bldg. MAIL: P.O. Box 188	920	R.H.Lamb	Citrus Fruit	Nov.2	Apr.15
SANFORD, FLA.** Court House	910	R.L.Sutton	Celery	Jan.22	Apr.15
BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS** Chamber of Commerce	931	J.D. Evers	Cabbage	Feb.1	May 1
			Beets & Carrots	Feb.1	May 1
			Potatoes	Mar. 29	May 1
			Stg.Beans	Apr.1	May 1
			Tomatoes	Apr.15	May 1
LAREDO, TEXAS**	801	A.E.Prugh	Onions	Apr.2	May 8
HAMMOND, LA.	802	W.H.Mosier	Berries	Mar.29	May 15
The following stations probably will open on date indicated:					
HASTINGS, FLA.**	851	R.L.Sutton	Potatoes	Apr.19	May 22
MOBILE, ALA.**	924	H.E.Rutland	Cabbage	Apr.19	May 22
			Potatoes	May 10	June 12
The following station closed on date indicated:					
EL CENTRO, CALIF. Barbara Worth Hotel	933	C.E.Schultz	Lettuce	Jan.4	Closed Apr.2

**State cooperating. * Reports discontinued.

H.E.Rutland in Chicago, temporarily. C.E. Schultz in Los Angeles.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. REPORT DELAYS IN RECEIVING WIRES FROM WASHINGTON.

In order to determine how promptly information regarding appeal inspections is received in Washington and instructions returned to branch offices, it is requested that branch offices, sending in such information, advise the Washington office in writing as to the time their wires were filed and the replies from Washington were received. We desire to find out the most expeditious way of handling these cases, and the above information will be of great assistance.

2c. MAIL COPIES OF SHIPPING-POINT CERTIFICATES TO WASHINGTON PROMPTLY.

The attention of all shipping-point supervisors is called to the necessity of promptness in mailing the Washington copies of certificates. Since receiving markets are reporting all appeal inspections to Washington before reversals are issued, it becomes more necessary than ever to have copies of certificates in our files when such cases come up. This matter is of so much importance that greater efforts must be made to impress the necessity for promptness upon the inspector, who should be advised that failure to send in certificates promptly will reflect not only on his efficiency but also on that of his supervisor.

3c. ANALYZING SAMPLES AT REQUEST OF TRADE.

My attention has been called to requests received by several offices from a peanut shipping organization to analyze small samples and send them the "pick-outs", in order that they may determine the basis on which inspections of their shipments have been made. Samples submitted for examination in this way are not always uniform and the results would show off-grade specimens which might differ widely in the defects present and in the seriousness of the damage by these defects. Comparisons of results of inspections made by several offices on varying samples might be used in an improper way to support a contention that analysis was not being made on the same basis in all offices. It seems best, therefore, to refer all such requests to Washington, from which office will be sent outsuch samples as seem nedessary under the circumstances. It is believed that this will help to maintain better relations with the trade and more uniform interpretations by them of our grades.

3½c. INSPECTION GROWS IN DELAWARE.

Shipping point inspection work in Delaware was almost five times as great in 1925 as in 1924, states W. T. Derickson, Director of the State Bureau of Markets. Up to the present time, the Bureau has furnished inspection only on early apples, grapes and late apples. They have been requested to furnish it on peaches, cantaloupes, and strawberries, and hope to add these products in 1927. The Bureau charges $4 per car for inspection, which money is collected and turned into the State Treasury, and a certain amount is appropriated to the Department annually for carrying on the work.

4c. FLORIDA SERVICE INSPECTS EXPRESS SHIPMENTS.

The cooperative inspection service in Florida is inspecting express shipments of fruits and vegetables as they pass through Jacksonville. This is at the request of the express company in its capacity as carrier. This work, Commissioner of Markets, L. M. Rhodes, says, is of such a nature that expeditious and efficient handling must be made of the local lot or express shipments, for at Jacksonville the packages are sorted and bunched for terminal points in the eastern and central as well as the southern markets. The inspector is required to work an incoming train so that the schedule for the shipments to connect with outgoing trains will not be altered. Fruits and miscellaneous vegetables are examined and many different types of containers handled. Careful handling of packages is essential so that the contents will not be disarranged when they reach their destination.

A separate inspection sheet is made for each shipment examined, whether one or one hundred packages. A charge of $10,00 for each working day is made for the service and Mr. Rhodes says that the inspector is busy every day in the week except Monday. The service protects the carrier against unjust claims, and assists the grower to collect on the basis of the amount of damage actually resulting from improper carrier manipulation of his produce.

5c. SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTIONS IN FLORIDA.

During the period from March 1 to 15, the following inspections were made in the respective shipping sections of Florida:-

	Fruits				
	Grapefruit	Oranges	Tangerines	Mixed	Total
Clermont	0	4	0	1	5
East Lake	0	6	0	3	9
Lakeland	5	0	0	3	8
Leesburg	17	7	0	1	25
Mt. Dora	1	19	0	5	25
Ocala	0	0	0	1	1
Tavares	2	5	0	7	14
Umatilla	3	25	0	0	28
Totals	28	66	0	21	115
Total to March 1	251	374	43	237	905
	279	440	43	258	1,020

	Vegetables		
	Celery	Cabbage	Total
Bradenton	4	0	4
Leesburg	0	4	4
Manatee	1	0	1
Matoaka	13	0	13
Oneco	4	0	4
Palmetto	1	0	1
Sanford	120	0	120
Wagner	2	0	2
Totals	145	4	149
Total to March 1	366	0	366
	511	4	515

TOTAL INSPECTIONS OF FRUITS AND VEGETABLES TO MARCH 15:- - - - - - - 1,535

6c.

FORGER OF INSPECTION NOTES RECEIVES SENTENCE.

Under date of March 26, H. D. Greene, of the Sacramento office, sent the following interesting report:-

Carlo Affe has pleaded guilty to the forgery of a carbon copy of Federal-State inspector's notes at Fresno last fall and has received from the court a sentence of two years of strict probation. He is required to report to the probation officer regularly, it is stipulated, and must keep himself permanently employed. The forgery, which has been called "one of Fresno County's most unusual cases", consisted of the alteration of the car number and other identifying data on a copy of inspection notes on a car of U. S. No. 1 grapes, so that these notes apparently covered a different car which was generally inferior and in very poor condition.

During October, Federal-State Inspector Nielsen certified for Affe at Fowler a carload of grapes which contained approximately 15% mold and decay, and was generally poor in condition, delivering to Affe a carbon copy of his field notes covering the inspection. Such copies of inspection notes are in general acceptance by the trade as a preliminary certificate of Government inspection. Several days later a buyer who purchased this car on the f.o.b. wire auction came to our Fresno office and requested a copy of the certificate, thus bringing to light the fact that a copy of the field notes covering an entirely different car of U. S. No.1 Muscats, loaded at Lone Star, had been altered to cover the low-grade car loaded at Fowler. An investigation showed that the billing and inspection point, date, car number, manifest and description of loading the car had been changed on the copy of inspection notes, so that the description of the car loaded at Lone Star, written by Inspector Hoppe, was applied to the inferior car loaded at Fowler and inspected by Nielsen.

It was further shown that Affe had put this car on the f.o.b. wire auction, using these fraudulently altered notes, and that the car was purchased on the basis of the forgery.

The district attorney issued a warrant for Affe's arrest, and he was located several weeks later in San Francisco and returned to Fresno, where he pleaded not guilty, being released under $2,000 bond. On March 17, however, he changed his plea to guilty and received the sentence stated above, thus closing the first case of forgery of inspection certificates on record by the California Department of Agriculture.

7c. COLD WEATHER IN SOUTHERN TEXAS.

Writing from Asherton, Texas, on March 26, H. T. Longino sent the following report of conditions in that section:-

"The weather has been like winter here for the past two days and continues cold. It was 42° to 44° this morning. I am afraid that this spell will delay the onion movement until the 10th . They do not look for anything to move before the 5th. The growers and shippers seem to be solid behind inspection service and I will have plenty of time to train the men.

"I have had about 10 or 12 cars of spinach that would grade U. S. No. 1 this week. The stock last week showed so many seed stems that we did not attempt to inspect."

TEMPORARY HEADQUARTERS OF EASTERN SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION DEALS

State	Federal Supervisor	Products	Approx. date to Open	Close
NEW YORK:	O. N. Harsha, 415 Triangle Bldg., Rochester, N. Y.	Apples	Aug. 20	May 15
		Onions	Sept. 1	Apr. 15
		Pears*	Sept. 1	Oct. 31*
		Peaches*	Sept. 10	Oct. 1*
		Potatoes	Sept. 15	May 15
		Grapes*	Oct. 1	Oct. 31*
		Cabbage*	Oct. 1	Mar. 15*
MAINE:	G. R. Warren, Ritchie Block, Caribou, Me.	Potatoes	Sept. 8	May 1
FLORIDA:	O. G. Strauss, Box 188, Orlando, Fla.	Citrus Fruit	Oct. 1	Apr. 17
	J. C. Townsend, Jr., Box 495, Sanford, Fla.	Celery	Jan. 1	Apr. 17
		Cabbage	Mar. 5	Apr. 17
TEXAS:	C. D. Shirley, Harlingen, Texas	Vegetables	Jan. 1	May 15
	M. C. Gregory, Laredo, Texas	Onions	Apr. 1	May 8
	H. T. Longino, Crystal City, Texas	Onions	Apr. 5	May 15

The following station was recently closed:

TEXAS:	H. T. Longino, Asherton, Texas	Vegetables	Mar. 15	Mar. 31

NOTE: Supervisors are requested to notify Washington at once of any changes in dates as listed above, especially closing dates.

The next item is from California Inspectors' Notes, No. 13, March 26:-

8c. DINUBA ORANGES GOOD.

"Arrived yesterday in Dinuba at 5:05 P.M." writes H. G. Whitney, March 20. "Went right to work and inspected until 10:15 P.M." The oranges there are in surprisingly good condition for this early in the season, the main defects being surface blemishes consisting of limb scars and thrip marks. Mr. Whitney has been inspecting several cars a day.

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

OFFICE NOTES:

On his return trip from Indiana, Mr. Sherman visited a Civil Service eligible in northern Ohio, and also stopped in Pittsburgh for a few hours to confer with F. & V. representatives there.

Ralph H. von Glahn, of New Jersey, has been given a cooperative appointment as Agent, in connection with his present position as State Marketing Agent in Florida, with headquarters at Jacksonville. Mr. von Glahn completed the agricultural course at Rutgers College, New Brunswick, N. J., and has been in the cooperative employ of this Bureau as a shipping-point inspector in various eastern States, since 1922. He is well known to supervisors and other inspectors who have worked in eastern and southern shipping-point deals.

R. C. Lindstrom, of the Chicago office, is substituting for Ray C. Bish in Cleveland this week and part of next week. Mr. Bish had to undergo an operation for the removal of his tonsils.

Effective April 1, H. T. Longino should be addressed at Crystal City instead of Asherton, Texas. Please keep this change of address in mind. The first car of Texas onions was reported to have rolled March 30.

Wm. E. Lewis left early yeaterday morning for Providence, R. I., to which city he was called on account of the death and funeral of his wife's mother. His proposed field trip to the Norfolk section of Virginia has had to be postponed until next week.

Miss Mary Losinsky, of the Baltimore office, is off duty a few days this week, on account of the sudden death of her father.

On his return to Chicago from Waupaca, Wis., W. G. Lensen was taken ill and has been unable to assist with the market-reporting work in Chicago this week.

Announcement is made with regret of the resignation of Mrs. Elsie Roberts Pecher, of the St. Louis inspection office. With the exception of six months in 1920, when she was out of the service, Mrs. Pecher has served continuously and very effectively in St. Louis since her original appointment in October, 1918. She expects to leave on April 17.

A. E. Prugh stopped at the San Antonio office yesterday and has now arrived at Laredo, Texas, where he will issue market reports on onions.

B. E. Shaffer expects to leave Washington next Monday and proceed to points in South Carolina, Georgia and Florida, where he will confer with growers and shippers regarding the grading and packing of asparagus, cucumbers and potatoes. He may be absent five or six weeks.

Miss Cecelia Daly, who has been assisting during the past season in the Rochester office, goes on her usual summer furlough on April 11.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

Edwin Smith, our special representative in Europe, has gone from London to Paris this week and is now on an investigational trip on the Continent. According to recent information, Mr. Smith probably will sail for America about April 22 and will hold a number of conferences with shippers of apples and other products in various parts of the country.

Mrs. D. P. Dinsmore, of the section compiling shipment statistics, has returned to duty after spending several weeks in a local hospital, where she underwent an operation on one of her eyes.

"The conversion table is 'busted'" exclaimed one of the clerks in the Washington office, whose duty it is to convert the market prices of potatoes to a uniform basis of 100 pounds for statistical and review purposes. When New York City last Saturday reported Long Island Green Mountains selling at $10 bulk per 180 pounds, the limits of the conversion table had been exceeded and it was necessary to compute some figures to match the market prices above $9.75.

Bad weather conditions throughout the Middle West interfered considerably with leased wire traffic on Wednesday. Traffic on the Central Circuit was delayed an hour or more and by 1 P.M. Wednesday it had come to a standstill.

Because of the unusual market conditions and a demand for the service, it has been decided to continue brief market reports on apples at the Spokane office until near the end of April.

Mrs. L. B. Gerry, of the Spokane office, attended on March 26 a meeting of the Pacific Northwest Advisory Board, held at the Davenport Hotel in Spokane. She advises that "it was a very wonderful, instructive and interesting meeting." The shipment and unload reports of this Bureau came up for discussion at one of the committee meetings.

Miss Anna L. Ericson, who resigned last May from Mr. Fiske's section to accept a teaching position in the D.C. public schools, has returned to the Bureau and is now associated with the Division of Agricultural Cooperation. At present she is working with Mr. Kuhrt on a grain marketing study, and is located on the 8th floor of the Bieber Bldg.

C. E. Schultz and possibly C. J. Hansen will go to Berkeley, Calif., on April 8, to confer with Extension Service representatives regarding the lettuce industry in California and other parts of the country. A series of commodity bulletins is being prepared by the Extension Service, and this study of the lettuce situation has a bearing on these publications.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 7, NO. 15
April 9, 1926.
(Contents Confidential)

1a. USE OF ENVELOPES.

The attention of the Interdepartmental Board on Simplified Office Procedure has been brought to instances of extravagant use of envelopes in the Government service. The Board suggests that a study of the manner in which envelopes are used may result in a saving along this line.

It is pointed out that instances have been found in which large kraft envelopes are used to mail out a few sheets of mimeographed material, that possibly could be mailed in an ordinary white envelope; envelopes of a quality better than necessary for the purpose are often used; envelopes of a size much larger than necessary are very frequently used; many of the field personnel receive material almost daily that is not of immediate interest and might well be held and mailed out to them at stated periods, making one envelope do the service of several.

There is no indication that such instances have been found in the Fruit and Vegetable Division. However, your cooperation is desired in effecting any possible saving along the line suggested.

2a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR APRIL 3:

Page 213 - Special paragraphs on potatoes in the weekly review.
214 - Florida Celery Shipments Passed Peak, - by R. L. Sutton.
- Additional Market News Field Stations.
215 - California canned and dried fruits meet competition. (filler)
220 - Final Indian Peanut Estimate Shows Large Increase.
224 - American Apples Popular in Brazil.
- Deciduous Fruit Exports of South Africa.
- Favorable Reports on Mediterranean Almond Crop.

3a. MACHINES TO WIPE NORTHWESTERN APPLES.

F. E. Bailey sent the following clipping from the Spokane Spokesman-Review of March 8. The installation of the machines mentioned in this article is an outgrowth of the arsenic-spray-residue scarce, which has restricted the sale of Washington apples in British markets:

Okanogan, Wash., March 7 - To remove arsenic spray residue on apples, the Okanogan Growers' Union will install five fruit-wiping machines, to cost $2500, in its central packing shed.

Box labels will show that the fruit has been wiped and the organization will capitalize the feature. It is thought that, in some cases, it will be possible to command a premium price.

The wiping machines will be installed just ahead of the fruit grading machines. In the wiping process, the fruit will pass over horizontal revolving rollers and be slapped by 500 pieces of canvas. The machines are electrically driven and are provided with a fan to remove dust and debris.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

1b. INCLUDE ARRIVAL STATEMENT FOR ALL STOCK QUOTED.

All stock upon which quotations are included in the wires to Washington must have been mentioned in the arrivals. When receipts are by l.c.l., either use a code phrase from the "G" (Shipments and Receipts) page, from "GAZ" to "GIH," or use a comparative term from the "C" (General Statement of Receipts and Supplies) page, such as "Florida CAFOG." Service wires can be expected whenever stock is quoted, which has not been mentioned in the arrivals that day or previously.

2b. GIVE PRIMARY STATE OR COUNTRY OF ORIGIN FOR ALL ARRIVALS.

The country of origin should always be secured, when carloads of imported stock are reported by the railroad. It is important to know, for example, whether onions came from Spain or Egypt. Similarly, the originating State should always be secured, when the railroad reports cars arriving via New York City or other diversion or reshipment point. If the railroad cannot supply the correct State or country of origin, secure the name of the consignee and find out from him.

3b. USE DESCRIPTIVE PHRASES WHENEVER STOCK IS NOT GOOD OR GENERALLY GOOD IN QUALITY AND CONDITION.

As most stock upon which quotations are secured is of merchantable quality, all market reports issued by the project include in the headings of the bulletins the following phrase:

"UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED, ALL QUOTATIONS ARE ON STOCK OF GOOD MERCHANTABLE QUALITY AND CONDITION."

We have interpreted this phrase to mean quality and condition that is either good or generally good. Therefore, in order that the market reports may correctly portray the appearance and condition of the stock quoted, - whenever either the quality or condition is better than good (i.e., fine or excellent), or poorer than generally good (i.e., ordinary, inferior, wilted, scalded, etc.), appropriate descriptive phrases from the "JA-JE" and "JI-JU" pages of the code, or English when necessary, must be included.

4b. QUOTING ON STOCK FROM DIFFERENT STATES AND DIFFERENT VARIETIES AT SAME PRICE.

Occasionally, it will be found that different varieties of produce from different States all sell at one price. When coding such stock, the word "and" should be inserted between the second State name and the preceding code word for container and variety. Example, PEWAB MINNESOTA PATEF AND WISCONSIN PATUF SEVEN TEKEX. If this is not done, the clerk decoding the wire may be uncertain as to whether the price was omitted intentionally or unintentionally.

5b. ADDITIONAL FOREIGN NEWS.

Latest reports to be issued by the Foreign Marketing Section are:- F.S.:9-22, "Egyptian Onion Shipments." F.S.:F-17, "British and German Fruit Imports in February." F.S.:F-18, "Fruit Prospects in Australia." F.S.:F-19, "The 1925 Canadian Fruit Harvest." F.S.:AL-15, "Production and Marketing of Palestine Almonds."

6b. STRAWBERRY SITUATION IN LOUISIANA.

The following information was contained in a letter of March 31, from W. H. Mosier, in charge of the Hammond, La., field station:-

"Things are looking better at Hammond this morning. The rain has stopped for the present, at least. The weather is bright and clear, although rather cool, but anything is better than the continual rain which has fallen for the past ten days. The berry crop is not damaged to any appreciable extent.

"The auction got under way last evening. It started with a bang, speeches, newspaper reporters, flash-light photographs and all the trimmings. One car was sold, the first straight car of the season. It consisted of 774 crates of Klondikes (24 pints each) and brought $6.27½ per crate, a total of $4,856.85. The car was bid in by C. C. Partee of Ripley, Tenn."

In another letter, dated April 6, Mr. Mosier wrote as follows:-

"The strawberry deal has been very slow in getting under way this season. However the weather is warming up, and last evening 20 cars were sold at auction, at an average price of $4.46½ per 24-pint crate. The movement should be brisk from now on and, if weather and market conditions remain favorable, the deal should last well into the month of May.

"Hammond is quite a little city. The residential section is well planted with large oak trees and the homes, as a rule, are nicely landscaped. The weather at present is delightful, roses are blooming and mocking birds are singing."

7b. RHUBARB MARKETING IN ALAMEDA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA.

A letter of March 29, from C. J. Hansen, San Francisco, contained the following additional information on rhubarb:-

"Sometime ago I wrote you about the Alameda County Rhubarb Association auctioning their rhubarb this year. This auction existed only for a period of about two weeks, when buyers dwindled to practically none and the members became so discouraged that they drew away from the Association, and the organization was discontinued.

"They are now selling their own supplies through any method which they see to their advantage. It does not appear that the deal will be at all profitable, as the arrangement they were working with last year, through an organized association, was far better than endeavoring to market independently.

"The acreage in Alameda County is estimated to be around 850. Besides the Alameda acreage, there are approximately 850 acres around Watsonville and Del Monte, but this is harvested between October and December. Sebastopol also has approximately 65 or 75 acres, which is harvested at that time. The shipping season for Hayward is March and April. Last year they shipped 136 carloads."

8b. FLORIDA POTATO DEAL, 1925.

Summary of the Florida Potato Deal, 1925, by H. E. Rutland, is the latest summary to be issued of a field deal. Statistical tables in this report compare shipments and unloads of potatoes for several years, which adds to the value of the figures.

9b. CONDITIONS IN THE LAREDO ONION DISTRICT.

An informal note from Mr. Prugh, at Laredo, Texas, gives the following information on the Bermuda onion crop: "About March 12, it seemed that several cars would move by March 25. However, commencing about the 15th, cool, cloudy weather and some rain occurred and continued during the last half of the month, and now only scattering shipments are expected even for the week of April 4-10. I was in a field yesterday (April 2), which had been planted early, and they were getting out a couple of cars. This was being done at a considerable loss of tonnage, as the cool weather retarded growth of the bulbs and developed many thick-necks. The weather was warmer yesterday, but is cool again today. It is difficult just now to tell how much the crop will be reduced from early estimates. Heaviest loss will be in the early plantings. Plenty of sunshine is needed now. Time of movement this year may correspond finally with that of the 1924 season.

In his first market report, issued on Monday, Mr. Prugh had decorated the top of the sheet with a picture of a large Bermuda onion, in the middle of which was a small outline map of Texas and the words: "Texas Onions." The sheet also included all available acreage and condition reports on Bermuda and Creole onions in Texas, California and Louisiana. Reference is made to Egyptian onion imports and to the condition of the onion markets in general.

10b. MARKET REPORTS STARTED ON STRAWBERRIES.

Beginning Monday, March 29, the Washington office is issuing daily mimeographed reports on the strawberry markets.

11b. 1925 UNLOADS IN ST. LOUIS MARKET.

G. D. Clark, of the St. Louis office, has issued an attractive summary of the 1925 unloads in that market. The front cover bears the title in large hand-drawn letters, and a picture of a box car. There were 17,457 cars of about 50 products received during the year, - an increase of 1,170 over 1924. One of the tables shows the total unloads of each product from each State. Separate tables for each product then give the monthly unloads on the basis of States of origin. Copies of this summary can be obtained from the St. Louis office.

12b. CORRECTION OF PENNSYLVANIA POTATO UNLOADS.

In Par. 5a of last week's Division Letter, the statement was made that Philadelphia received only two cars of New Jersey potatoes during 1925, in addition to the receipts by truck. E. R. Biddle, of the Philadelphia office, calls attention to the error, and advises that 357 cars arrived from Jersey last year, instead of only two cars.

13b. HIGH POTATO PRICES IN STATE OF WASHINGTON:

A Seattle dispatch to the press of April 5 says: "Due to heavy buying for Chicago account and reduction in holdings, No. 1 Washington Yakima Gem baking potatoes have advanced to $80 per ton, f.o.b. shipping point, with combinations, or 75-25 top and mixed stock, to $75. Less than 800 carloads of merchantable potatoes remain in this State, with Idaho's supply estimated at 1,500 cars. These prices are the highest but one, in 1920, in the history of the Washington potato industry. Opening prices for new potatoes are high, due to cost of seed."

14b. BRIEF NOTES ON VARIOUS DEALS:

-C. J. Hansen, of San Francisco, wired that California asparagus shipments during the next two weeks probably will average 12 to 15 cars daily. Weather has been considerably cooler, with showers during the early part of the week, and this condition has curtailed the growth of the asparagus and hindered cutting of the crop.

-A wire from B. E. Shaffer, at Williston, S.C., indicates that the first carload shipments of South Carolina asparagus started this week, and that possibly 130 cars will move during next two weeks.

-Movement of New Jersey asparagus probably will not be heavy before last of April.

-A. E. Prugh advised from Laredo, Texas, that there was some hail in that section on Tuesday evening. His f.o.b. report for Wednesday included the following statement. "Hail damage approximately 1,000 acres of onions in vicinity of Laredo. Stripped off tops or cut almost to ground, much of which apparently nearly total loss. Also 300 acres damaged probably 25%."

-The Division of Crop and Livestock Estimates sent wires to reliable growers at Laredo, and received the following replies regarding hail damage: "Looks like loss around 450 or 500 cars." "Bad hail; estimates 600 acres destroyed and about 300 to 400 acres badly damaged." "About 1,000 acres south Laredo practically ruined." In a mimeographed report on estimated production of Bermuda and Creole onions, dated today, the Crop Estimates Division was unable to make any deduction, reflecting this recent hail damage to the crop in Webb County, Texas. A corrected report will be issued about April 25, based on advices of April 15.

-Reports from the Ozark region indicate that a great many, white Bermuda onions are being grown there this year.

-L. M. Rhodes, Commissioner of the Florida State Marketing Bureau, wired that carlot shipments of potatoes are expected from Federal Point, Fla., about April 15, and from Hastings between April 20 and 25, with movement mostly after May 1, and shipments to continue through first week of June.

-According to reports from F. E. Bailey, the first carloads of asparagus were to move from Kennewick, in the lower Yakima Valley of Washington, on March 31, with the expectation of several additional cars that week. Some carlot shipments of field-grown rhubarb had already moved from Sumner, in the vicinity of Puget Sound.

15b. HAS CONSUMPTION OF POTATOES BEEN CURTAILED?

To ascertain whether or not the consumers of potatoes had reduced their purchases since the extreme rise of prices last autumn, R.L. Ringer, of the Portland office, addressed a letter to each of the large systems of chain stores in Portland and to a few of these companies in the State of Washington. The general opinion seems to be that fewer potatoes have been sold than would have been the case with lower prices, and apparently larger quantities of rice, beans, macaroni, corn, hominy, etc., have been handled in these stores in the Pacific Northwest. One of the Piggly Wiggly stores said that their price on potatoes had never been high, but that some of the substitutes had been selling even lower. Another company estimated that they had handled one-third fewer potatoes this season than last, but this same company placed part of the blame on the poor quality of the northwestern potatoes,- the stock would not keep well during the mild winter. Still another firm said "we have not noticed any material increase in the use of substitutes."

16b. BRIEF REVIEW OF IMPERIAL VALLEY LETTUCE DEAL.

On closing the El Centro field station last Friday, C. E. Schultz issued a preliminary review of the Imperial Valley lettuce deal for this season. Copies of this review probably can be obtained from Mr. Schultz, at the Los Angeles office. It contains a table of destinations on all shipments from January 5 to April 1; also a tabulation of daily shipments and f.o.b. prices, and of arrivals and jobbing prices in New York and Chicago. Monthly shipments for the season are tabulated on the basis of originating stations in Imperial Valley, and a statement is given concerning the lettuce acreage in recent years. The sub-heads in this review indicate its contents and give an idea as to the season in general:-

Uncertainty Prevailed this Season	: Heavy Production of Smaller Sizes
Warm Weather Cuts Shipments	: Los Angeles Crate Generally Used
Prices Generally Good	: Quality of Lettuce Variable
Deal Not Generally Profitable	: Inspection Records as to Quality

17b. IN MARCH SUPPLEMENT TO "CROPS AND MARKETS."

Page 73 - Time of Issuance and Scope of the April 9 Crop Reports.
74 - Planting Intentions on March 1, 1926, for potatoes, sweet potatoes, peanuts, etc.
- Early Potato Acreage in the South.
76 - Detailed report on Intention to Plant potatoes, sweet potatoes and peanuts.
78 - Estimated Condition of Orange and Lemon Trees in California.
80 - States Reporting Crops by Counties.
- Prospects for early Florida tomatoes. (filler)
81 - Stocks of Potatoes on January 1. (this appears on pages 81 & 82)
83 - The acreage of Florida cucumbers. (filler)
86 - Price and condition of Truck Crops in February, - asparagus, snap beans, beets, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, celery, lettuce, Bermuda and Creole onions, peppers, early potatoes, spinach, strawberries and tomatoes.
87 - Estimated acreage and production of Florida strawberries and tomatoes, and of early asparagus, by States.
- Estimated commercial acreage of early potatoes, second-early cabbage and carrots, by States.
- Florida celery season. (filler)
- Recent Agricultural Publications.
96 - Cauliflower acreage in California. (filler)
97 - March 1 Cold Storage Holdings of apples, pears, and frozen and preserved fruits.
98 - Carload Shipments of Fruits and Vegetables in February, by States.
99 - Carload Shipments of Citrus Fruits in February, by States.
101 - Production of Certified Seed Potatoes Greatly Reduced.
103 - Spring acreage of early potatoes in South Texas. (filler)

E. W. STILLWELL,
Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

Stations	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably will close
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	Mrs. L. B. Gerry	Apples	Aug. 24	Apr. 30
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO. 230 Federal Bldg.	845	W. F. Cox	Potatoes	Sept. 2	Apr. 15
ROCHESTER, N. Y. ** 419 Triangle Bldg.	837	H. S. Duncan A. L. Thomas	Apples Pears* Cabbage* Onions Peaches* Celery* Potatoes Grapes* Carrots	Sept. 4 Sept. 4 Sept. 4 Sept. 14 Sept. 14 Sept. 16 Sept. 16 Sept. 21 Sept. 23	May 15 Oct. 31* Mar. 12* Apr. 15 Oct. 3* Jan. 23* May 15 Oct. 31* Apr. 15
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. 419 Federal Bldg. MAIL: P. O. Box 86	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Apples* Potatoes Onions*	Oct. 7 Oct. 7 Oct. 7	Nov. 24* June 1 Mar. 20*
ORLANDO, FLA.** 20 Phillips Bldg. MAIL: P. O. Box 188	920	R. H. Lamb	Citrus Fruit	Nov. 2	May 1
SANFORD, FLA.** Court House	910	R. L. Sutton	Celery	Jan. 22	Apr. 17
BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS** Chamber of Commerce	931	J. D. Evers	Cabbage Beets & Carrots Potatoes Stg.Beans Tomatoes	Feb. 1 Feb. 1 Mar. 29 Apr. 1 Apr. 15	May 1 May 1 May 1 May 1 May 1
HAMMOND, LA. P. O. Bldg.	802	W. H. Mosier	Berries	Mar. 29	May 15
LAREDO, TEXAS** Chamber of Commerce	801	A. E. Prugh	Onions	Apr. 5	May 8
The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:					
HASTINGS, FLA.**	831	R. L. Sutton	Potatoes	Apr. 20	May 22
MOBILE, ALA.** Custom House	924	H. E. Rutland	Cabbage Potatoes	Apr. 19 May 10	May 22 June 12

**State cooperating. * Reports discontinued.

H. E. Rutland in Mobile, Ala. C. E. Schultz in Los Angeles office.

INSPECTION SERVICE.

1c. MAKE COMPLETE INSPECTIONS FOR ZELTROCIDE COMPANY:

The Zeltrocide Company has requested that complete inspections be made on all cars, guaranteed by them, on which inspection is requested. Certificates issued on these lots should show blemished and defects and the U. S. grade under which these lots would qualify. This is the first intimation, which we have had, that they desired inspection for factors other than condition. It seems, however, that their contracts with shippers cover only fruit of certain quality, and that the complete certificate is necessary in order to determine whether these lots meet such requirements.

2c. SEND COPIES OF CERTIFICATES ON FLORIDA TOMATOES TO DR. RAMSEY.

Dr. G. B. Ramsey is conducting some investigations on the diseases of Florida tomatoes and requests copies of all certificates issued on these tomatoes during the next four or five weeks. Please mail these to Dr. G. B. Ramsey, Box 287, Homestead, Florida.

3c. MORE ABOUT THE EARLY SPRING IN PACIFIC NORTHWEST.

In a letter of March 31, from Spokane, F. E. Bailey wrote as follows:-

"Some one made the remark recently that the present season in the Pacific Northwest will be as much in advance of last season as that one was ahead of normal. Personally, I believe this describes conditions very well. In other words, it might be said that this season is opening up very abnormally early; we called last season abnormally early. As Mr. Ringer stated in one of his recent reports to Washington, conditions are favorable for bumper crops of all kinds of fruit. A very mild winter has caused all fruit buds to come through in fine shape. During the past two weeks, we have had some nights when frost caused growers to light their smudge pots, but so far I have heard of no damage of consequence from frosts. A few flakes of snow which fell at Spokane last night gave us an indication of what is going on at present in States farther east, and it appeared for a few hours as if we might be in for some belated winter. However, the sun is shining this morning and spring is still with us."

Similar information is given by H. C. Diehl, of Wenatchee, in a letter of April 3:-

"The blossom season is very early here. When I returned from the East, apricots were in full bloom, while peaches were very nearly so. Anjou pears have not been slow in showing blossoming during the week, and the Bartlett trees in the warmer sections are now covered with open blossoms. The center blooms of blossom clusters on Jonathan, Winter Banana and Stayman Winesap are open in many instances around Wenatchee, especially in the early-season sections of the district. If the weather remains favorable, this would indicate an unusually early harvest season."

TEMPORARY HEADQUARTERS OF EASTERN AND SOUTHERN SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION DEALS

State	Federal Supervisor	Products	Approx. date of Opening	Closing
NEW YORK:	O. N. Harsha, 415 Triangle Bldg., Rochester, N. Y.	Apples	Aug. 20	May 15
		Onions	Sept. 1	Apr. 15
		Pears*	Sept. 1	Oct. 31*
		Peaches*	Sept.10	Oct. 1*
		Potatoes	Sept.15	May 15
		Grapes*	Oct. 1	Oct. 31*
		Cabbage*	Oct. 1	Mar. 15*
MAINE:	G. R. Warren, Ritchie Block, Caribou, Me.	Potatoes	Sept. 8	Apr. 10
FLORIDA:	O. G. Strauss, Box 188, Orlando, Fla.	Citrus Fruit	Oct. 1	May 1
	J. C. Townsend, Jr., Box 495, Sanford, Fla.	Celery	Jan. 1	Apr. 17
		Cabbage	Mar. 5	Apr. 17
TEXAS:	C. D. Shirley, Harlingen, Texas	Vegetables	Jan. 1	May 15
	M. C. Gregory, Laredo, Texas	Onions	Apr. 5	May 8
	H. T. Longino, Crystal City, Texas	Onions	Apr.10	May 15

* Service completed.

4c. DECIDUOUS FRUIT MATURITY INVESTIGATIONS.

The Sacramento office recently distributed with the California Inspector's Notes a reprint pamphlet, entitled: "Deciduous Fruit Maturity Investigations," by J. R. Magness, of the U. S. D. A., and F. W. Allen, of the University of California. This article was originally published in the Monthly Bulletin, California Department of Agriculture, November, 1925. Possibly those who are interested in this information can obtain copies of the reprint pamphlet from the Sacramento office. It contains 12 pages.

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

STANDARDIZATION AND RESEARCH

1d. REVISED 1926 GRADES FOR STRAWBERRIES.

After the revised grades for Strawberries were distributed with the Division Letter for March 26, an error was discovered in them. These grades have again been revised, and the latest sheet is dated April 7. Be sure to destroy all copies, which were issued in March. The error related to the tolerance for decay. Copies of the correct grades are enclosed with this D. L.

R. R. PAILTHORP,
Marketing Specialist.

OFFICE NOTES:

E. E. Conklin, Jr., has been transferred from Mr. Samson's project to the Inspection Service and, after May 1, will have his permanent headquarters in Sacramento, Calif., c/o State Dept. of Agriculture. Mr. Conklin will assist regularly with the supervision of the inspection work in California and will also direct the inspection service in Arizona and Nevada. He left yesterday for Syracuse, N.Y., where he is taking a few days' annual leave, after which he will proceed west. He expects to stop at the Chicago office to confer with members of the Inspection Service there for a day or two, and then will go to Texas for conferences with State and Federal representatives interested in standardization and inspection work. En route from Texas to California, Mr. Conklin will stop at Phoenix, Ariz., for one or two days, to make arrangements for shipping-point inspection of cantaloupes this season. He probably will reach southern California by May 1. It will be remembered that Mr. Conklin was appointed originally to the Market News Service in May, 1917; was transferred to the Inspection Service in July, 1920, and then to Mr. Samson's project in July, 1922, so that he has had experience in all lines of work conducted by the Fruit and Vegetable Division.

The FORT WORTH office of the Inspection Service will be closed for the summer, effective April 15. F. S. Kinsey, who has been handling the Fort Worth inspections since the middle of March, will proceed to New Orleans, and assist with the work in that market until Mississippi shipping-point inspections begin.

Miss Psyche Clemens, of the Kansas City office, was off duty the first part of this week, because of the death of her grandmother.

It is expected that G. R. Warren will complete his supervision of potato inspections in Aroostook County, Maine, at the end of this week, and then report for temporary duty in New York City, pending a future assignment.

Congratulations are extended H. E. Rutland and best wishes to his bride, who was Miss Helen Hoyt, of Presque Isle, Maine. The marriage took place at Presque Isle on Wednesday, March 31. Mr. and Mrs. Rutland proceeded to Chicago, and on Wednesday of this week went to Mobile, Ala., where Mr. Rutland will open the field station of the Market News Service on April 19.

Following his conference with Extension Service representatives at Berkeley, Calif., yesterday, C. E. Schultz is spending today and possibly Saturday in San Francisco, where he is conferring with C. J. Hansen regarding market news work. He will return to the Los Angeles office.

W. L. Evans and H. V. DeMott, of the Domestic Wool Section, went to New York City on Tuesday evening, where they are participating in a court case against John E. McMurtry & Co., wool dealers. They probably will return to Washington by Saturday.

A wire from Mr. Samson indicates that he is following closely his itinerary, as published on page 178 of the D.L. for March 26. He expects to be in Portland, Oregon, next Monday and Tuesday, April 12 and 13.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

Wm. E. Lewis is now at Norfolk, Va., looking into the use of the U. S. spinach grades in that shipping section. He probably will remain there until April 15, on which date he will participate in a conference on sweet potato grades, to be attended also by Robert Bier, of the Washington office; F. E. Parsons, of the Richmond office, and A. E. Mercker, of the Raleigh office.

After April 15, it is tentatively planned to have O. G. Strauss, Supervising Inspector, issue the market reports on citrus fruits at the Orlando, Fla., field station. These reports probably will be continued until May 1. R. H. Lamb, who has been conducting this service since last November, will be given a field assignment elsewhere after the 15th.

The front page of The New York Packer for April 3 carries Mr. Sherman's address on the proposed standard trading rules, delivered at the March 26 session of the Melon Distributors' Association, in Evansville, Ind. His remarks are followed by those delivered previously by James L. Leonard, of Cincinnati.

F. E. Bailey, of the Spokane office, has a complete file of northwestern boxed-apple labels in his office, filed in alphabetical order under the names of the individuals or firms owning them. There are several hundred labels in this file, and Mr. Bailey reports that he finds it of considerable value in checking up on various questions relating to brands and labels.

H. C. Diehl, one of the B. P. I. representatives at Wenatchee, Wash., wrote as follows on April 3: "After six weeks' absence from Wenatchee, I was happy to return again, although the trip to eastern markets gave me much new material for thought and permitted me to meet many men, with whom I had had only a corresponding acquaintance."

Henry D. Greene, editor-in-chief of the weekly California Inspectors' Notes, was called upon to assist with standardization work in the field just before Easter, and others in the Sacramento office issued the last number of these Notes, dated April 2.

The California Inspection Service has mimeographed and distributed locally copies of Mr. Samson's address on "The Standardization and Inspection of Fruits and Vegetables," which was delivered before the American Institute of Cooperation some time ago. Possibly those who desire a copy of this address can obtain one from W. F. Allewelt, of the Sacramento office.

S. S. Rogers left Sacramento on Wednesday, March 31, for Los Angeles and the Imperial Valley, where he expects to spend some time on lettuce standardization work.

L. J. Powell returned to the Sacramento office on March 31 from a 2000-mile trip, which covered almost all sections where shipping-point inspection deals are being conducted in the State. He was accompanied by Jack M. Eakins of the Truck Crop Estimate Service.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 7, NO. 16
April 16, 1926.
(Contents Confidential)

1a. FLORIDA'S 1926 CITRUS CROP MAY BE WIDELY ADVERTISED.

Through O. G. Strauss, Supervising Inspector at Orlando, a clipping has been received from the Tampa Tribune, dated April 7. It goes on to say that the chairman of the Publicity Committee of the Fruitmen's Club favors the raising of a $1,000,000 fund, to be used in advertising the large crop of citrus fruits expected in Florida next season. The suggestion has been made that, to market the crop profitably,,a nation-wide advertising campaign will be necessary. It is planned to raise this amount by a per-box charge, averaging not more than 5 cents a box on the entire crop.

2a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR APRIL 10:

Page 229 - Special paragraphs on potatoes in the weekly review.
230 - Imperial Valley Lettuce Deal Waning, - by C. E. Schultz.
231 - Market Reports Issued in Alabama.
234 - Scarcity of Florida strawberries. (filler)
240 - Potato Shipments from Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia.
- Onions Imported from Australia.

3a. ADDITIONAL FOREIGN NEWS:

"The Spanish Onion Industry" is the title of an excellent 7-page circular, issued last week by the Foreign Marketing Section. The serial designation of this detailed report is F.S.:O-24, and copies can be had on request.

Two additional reports have been published on "Egyptian Onion Shipments." These are designated as F.S.:O-23 and F.S.:O-25. Other recent releases are as follows: F.S.:F-20, "Australian Dried Fruit Prospects, 1926." F.S.:P-12, "Yugoslavian Prune Exports Reaching Early Estimates." F.S.:CF-25, "Fertilizer Practices of Sicilian Lemon Producers." F.S.:CF-26, "Sicilian Verdelli Lemon Prospects."

4a. UNLOAD FIGURES FOR PENNSYLVANIA CITIES.

Advice from the Harrisburg office is to the effect that 1925 unload statistics on fruits and vegetables have been compiled for the following 15 cities, and persons needing these statistics doubtless can get them from State Bureau of Markets, at Harrisburg:

Allentown	Easton	Johnstown	Pittsburgh	Wilkes-Barre
Altoona	Erie	Lancaster	Reading	Williamsport
Bethlehem	Harrisburg	Philadelphia	Scranton	York

D. M. James is now beginning the work of bringing figures of this kind together for a period of five years, with the intention of having these data published in bulletin form during the coming summer. Another bulletin also is contemplated by the State Bureau of Markets on "Pennsylvania as a Fruit Market," including apples, peaches and grapes, with brief references to other competitive crops.

5a. LORE ABOUT THE DECREASED CONSUMPTION OF POTATOES.

R. H. Shoemaker wrote as follows from Grand Rapids, Mich., on April 12:

"With reference to Division Letter of April 9, Par. 15b, the discussion of the question of decreased consumption of potatoes this year, because of high prices, has been going on all winter, out here. Most of the contentions for decreased consumption come from buyers' representatives, and at first thought would appear reasonable.

"However, it would seem that the best measure of this is the comparative shipment tables, from the weekly summaries. To April 3, these records show the shipments from the leading late States to be 148,872 cars, as compared with 154,296 cars last season, - with Canadian imports this season of 2,925 cars, as against 89 a year ago.

"Up to a month ago, there had been very little difference in the total shipments for consumption (including imports)from the leading late States, and, in view of the fact that some of the intermediate, consuming States, such as Ohio and Indiana, had much heavier stocks of homegrowns this year, it would appear that there has been very little difference between consumption during the 1924-25 and the 1925-26 seasons."

In commenting on this letter, one of the men (not the editor) in the Washington office said: "Any retailer will say that actual consumption has been reduced. At least they say so in Washington. Some of my neighbors are going without potatoes this spring. But carlot movement does not correspond with consumption. With big crops in western States, normally able to spare most of their production at a price, and with local stocks reported only half of normal in some consuming States, it is evident that carlot movement, including poor stock, will be out of proportion to the crop or to individual consumption."

The next item is from California Inspectors' Notes No. 13, March 26:-

6a. EGYPTION ONIONS OFFER COMPETITION.

Bermuda onions from Egypt are being poured into New York and Boston in large quantities at prices with which Texas and California are unable to compete, according to a letter just received from Urick & Hollis, one of the largest operators in the Coachella onion deal. They enclose a copy of a wire from Texas from Joe Rosenbloom, one of the largest onion operators in the United States, which asserts that the Egyptian onions can be laid down in New York or Boston at $2.65 per cwt. This figure covers the present tariff of $1.00 per cwt. and is said to include profits to everyone concerned, with the exception of the importing firm. Compare this with $3.40 per cwt., which is the cost of placing California and Texas Bermudas on these same markets, with no profit to grower, shippers or receiver. The local firms are asking that an emergency tariff of 2½¢ per pound be levied on foreign onions, replacing the present duty of 1¢ per pound. The Texas firm recommends a complete quarantine embargo, on the ground that foreign onions contain diseases.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. WHEN DO YOU DESIRE YOUR ANNUAL VACATION? (Reply)

Every summer and fall the question of leave arises, and each year considerable difficulty is met in trying to give every field and market station man leave at the time he wishes it. As soon as possible, we desire from each man a statement as to when he wants or prefers to take his annual leave, giving a first, second, and third preference. We do not know whether we shall be able to please everybody, but effort will be made to do so as nearly as possible. It is rather difficult to plan leaves of absence, especially in the summer during the busy season, which naturally is the time most of the men desire to take their vacation. Please reply promptly.

2b. CORRECTIONS DESIRED FOR ADDRESS LIST.

The last Market Station Address List, issued one year ago, is sadly in need of revision. Men in charge of market stations will receive with this Division Letter a post-card, on which to advise of changes or additions to the list. Please actually examine the old list, when reporting corrections. Let us have your post-card very soon.

3b. CHANGE ON "PU" PAGE OF THE CODE (EFFECTIVE APRIL 23).

On "PU" (Strawberry) page of the code, change

PUH Crates, 24-pint ventilated, to read
PUJ Crates, 24-pint ventilated

This change is made because of the telegraphic similarity of "S" and "H" and the frequent confusion of "PUH" with "PUS," meaning 32-quart crates.

4b. SPECIFY INDIVIDUAL STATES OF ORIGIN IN QUOTATIONS.

Some reporters are in the habit of using phrases like "Western" and "Midwestern," instead of the originating State, for quotations on onions and other products. While it undoubtedly is true that stock from Indiana, Illinois and Ohio, for example, may all sell for the same price, yet it does not often happen that stock from all three States is on the market at the same time. It is not only more accurate to give the exact State of origin, but also more helpful to a shipper, who studies the bulletins to see what the stock from his own State is bringing, and to freight agents, who are adjusting claims. In the future, therefore, - unless special authority is obtained for using group names, such as Western and Midwestern, - always list the individual States, from which stock is appearing that day on the market. This restriction does not apply to the term" Northwestern," when used in connection with apples.

A UNIQUE LETTER-HEAD was received by one of the market stations from a small, southern town, on which the merchant advertised his specialties as follows: "Millinery. --- Ladies Ready to Wear. --- Vegetables."

5b. PLACE ORDERS NOW FOR MIMEOGRAPH SUPPLIES.

Mimeograph paper and envelopes should be ordered nearly three months in advance of their actual need, so as to allow adequate time for delivery. To avoid the accumulation of orders at the end of the fiscal year, you are requested to place your orders at once for such quantities of mimeograph paper, envelopes, stencils and ink as will be needed, in addition to your present stock, to handle your work until October 1. Request each article on a separate requisition. Joint offices also should place requisitions for such supplies as should be purchased from the funds of the Fruit and Vegetable News Service. Offices which ship supplies to field stations should include these additional supplies in their orders, but should indicate how much is being ordered for field stations and how much for the local office. If you have any suggestions or special instructions as to quality or method of packing or shipping, mention them.

6b. FIRST RECEIPTS OF EGYPTIAN ONIONS IN NEW YORK.

Writing from New York City on April 8, W. H. Stanton made the following comments on the arrival of 131 carloads of Egyptian onions:

"The first large cargo of Egyptian onions, which was reported in our wire this morning, was examined by me this afternoon. You will note from my wire that slightly more than half the cargo, or approximately 64 cars, is to be disposed of in New York, and the balance is to be shipped in bond to various foreign points, principally Cuba. Of course, a large portion of the stock handled in New York will be shipped to other terminal markets.

"Most of the stock kept in New York is of splendid quality and in fine condition. Some of the sacks were spotted here and there, but practically all of the stock was very dry and made a fine appearance in sacks marked with the brands and names of the principal New York importers.

"Most of the stock shipped in bond for foreign ports was also of good quality and generally in good condition, but there was considerable small stock mixed with the large, and generally it could be termed field-run. The stock for domestic consumption was sold generally at $4 to $4.25, while the stock for export sold mostly at $2.90 to $3 in bond.

"You probably are aware that, up to last year, very few Egyptian onions that arrived in New York were shipped to any other markets, except Philadelphia. Last year a much wider distribution was secured, and it is expected that this year an even wider distribution will be effected.

"A most remarkable improvement in the general appearance of Egyptian arrivals has taken place since various American factors have taken an interest in these onions. While no saxoline bags are used, for obvious reasons, the packages now resemble the American product in every other respect. At the present time, the principal factors here are most optimistic over the prospects of Egyptian onions for a rather extended period, and already sales are being consummated for the next cargo, to arrive around the 12th of the month, at $4 per sack in New York."

PRICES OF MAINE POTATOES at Aroostook County shipping points since late March this season have advanced even higher than the corresponding quotations in 1920, after the short crop of 1919. On April 10, bulk Green Mountains were bringing $6.10 per 100 pounds.

7b. PRELIMINARY REVIEW OF MAINE POTATO DEAL.

Before leaving Presque Isle, Maine, H. E. Rutland published a brief review of the Aroostook County potato deal, in which he emphasized the high prices prevailing this season and the general prosparity of farmers, after their recent disastrous potato seasons. A table shows the comparative f.o.b. prices at Presque Isle, Me.; Rochester, N.Y.; Minneapolis, Minn., and Waupaca, Wis., on a certain day of each week during the entire season. Mr. Rutland also points out the advantage which Maine growers enjoyed by planting good seed last year. This season's crop, he estimates, was worth about $60,000,000 to Maine farmers, who thereby were enabled to pay a lot of outstanding debts. On March 27, the local estimates of stocks remaining to be shipped varied from 6,000 to 8,000 cars.

8b. SUMMARIES OF THE 1925 TEXAS ONION DEALS.

The Laredo, Texas, Bermuda Onion Deal, 1925, by G. E. Prince, and the Bermuda Onion Deal for Winter Garden District, Texas, 1925, by E. D. Mallison, are two summaries recently released by the Washington office.

Mr. Prince's summary carries on the front page an outline map of Texas, with the several onion-shipping sections plainly marked. Throughout the summary, comparative figures are given for previous years. Transportation costs are shown on onions from Laredo to 57 leading markets.

Mr. Mallison's summary has an outline map of the United States on the front cover, and inserted in each State is the number of cars of Texas onions shipped to the State. This report is prefaced by a history of the onion and by a discussion of various types of onions, as well as references to growing conditions suitable for this product. A graph shows the relation between daily carlot shipments of Texas Bermudas and the f.o.b. prices at Crystal City. Freight rates are given from Crystal City to 56 markets.

9b. SUMMARY OF 1925 UNLOADS AT DALLAS, TEXAS.

W. D. Googe recently issued a mimeographed summary of Carlot Arrivals, Diversions, and Unloads of Fresh Fruits and Vegetables at Dallas, Texas, during 1924 and 1925. This report also includes separate tabulations of unloads during 1925, on the basis of products and of months and States of origin. For 1925, Dallas received 6,368 cars of 33 products, and unloaded 4,816 of these cars. Total unloads are given, also, on the basis of originating States, showing that California is the principal source of Dallas' supply. Copies of this summary can be obtained from Mr. Googe, of the Fort Worth office.

10b. WESTERN TENNESSEE STRAWBERRY DEAL, 1925.

Another summary to be released this week is The Western Tennessee Strawberry Deal, 1925, by G. D. Clark. This report contains the usual statistical tables, in addition to the general description of the berry season in Western Tennessee.

11b. WHITE COUNTY, ARKANSAS, STRAWBERRY DEAL, 1925.

Summary of the White County, Arkansas, Strawberry Deal, Season of 1925, by G. A. DeHaven, also was distributed this week. A graph shows the daily carlot shipments from White County and for the entire United States. The summary of city markets gives comparative prices on berries from Arkansas and competing States. The U.S. grades for strawberries also are included.

12b. DON'T FORGET THE EDITOR.

All market news men, whether at city stations or in the field, are urged to send the D.L. editor an individual copy of every special report, review, summary, or other special release which may be issued, so that these releases may receive due mention in the Division Letter. Some of the men overlook this matter. For example,- one man, on closing a field station, published a very good review of the season, but the D. L. editor was unaware of it, until he saw a copy of the review in one of the trade papers about two weeks later. In another instance, one of the market stations published a summary of unloads and a summary of a field deal, but the D. L. editor learned of these reports only accidentally, by seeing a letter (referring to the summaries) which was returned by the post office, undelivered because of wrong address. Please KEEP THE EDITOR INFORMED.

13b. REPORTS ON SWEET POTATOES DISCONTINUED.

The semi-weekly reports on Sweet Potatoes were discontinued today for the present season, as most supplies are cleaned up.

14b. BRIEF NOTES ON VARIOUS DEALS:

A wire from H. E. Rutland advises that the Alabama cabbage crop is poor. Local estimates indicate probably not more than 1,000 cars, and shipments to April 10 were only about 100 cars, compared with 335 to the same time last season.

Reports from many sections of the Willamette Valley, in Oregon, are to the effect that there will be a generally large fruit crop this year, weather conditions having being most favorable for all varieties.

Prospects for strawberry shipments from the middle part of Tennessee this season are as follows, according to a letter from The Portland Strawberry Growers' Association: 200 cars from Portland and Fountain Head; 50 each from Westmoreland and Mitchellville, making a total of 300 cars. Franklin, Ky., just 10 miles north of Portland, Tenn., expects to ship 75 cars. By next year, this section hopes to have 700 cars of strawberries.

Shipping-point inspectors in California advise that some potatoes are now moving from the Colma district, and the price on Garnet Chili stock last week reached $11.40 per 100 pounds. About two-thirds of the shipments are going through the vacuum fumigator at Colma, for shipment to the Northwest. The tuber moth appeared exceptionally early this season, and a large number of the fields show infestation.

15b. LOOSE VS. BUNCHED ASPARAGUS.

The early part of this week, W. H. Stanton, of the New York office, submitted the following article, which probably will appear in some of the trade papers. It is an interesting discussion of a unique question:-

A rather interesting observation or prediction was made recently by a New York handler of asparagus, to the effect that eventually practically all California asparagus may be shipped loose instead of bunched. Other large factors in the deal were asked to express themselves on this possibility, and, as might be expected, the opinions were widely different and very pronounced in each direction. Those favoring and those opposing the prediction were fairly evenly divided, the ones believing it unlikely being slightly in the majority. The largest handler here stated that it would not surprise him at all, if shipments eventually were all loose in the crates. The next largest factor stated it is foolish to believe such a thing at all likely.

For many years, shipments of loose asparagus have been made from California, but this year apparently will eclipse all past records. A dealer advised today that he had just received a full car of loose stock. I have no recollection of previous straight cars of loose asparagus, although it is possible that such shipments were made to other markets. The size of this season's crop may account for such a car. There has been a good, steady demand for the loose stock thus far in New York, but it usually has been from the so-called "cheaper" element of the jobbing trade and the prices have been slightly lower than fairly-comparable bunched stock.

Probably growers and shippers have very definite ideas of how asparagus should be shipped, after years of experience. A brief resume, however, of the apparent advantages and disadvantages of a loose pack can do no harm and may influence the opinions of some persons interested in the subject:-

Taking it for granted that careful grading-an obvious requirement-were to be made of all shipments, the loose package probably would be less expensive, for the season as a whole. The cost of paper, twine and labor for a bunched crate probably would exceed the cost of the additional "grass" put into a loose package. The time saved in packing also would be a factor of no small importance.

There is no denying the prevalent belief that the logical and sensible method of selling asparagus, not to mention other commodities, is on the pound basis. Is it not somewhat arbitrary to bunch this product as at present, and force those who purchase at retail to take a two-pound bunch ? When prices are high, particularly at the beginning of the season, does this not prevent purchases by those who might take a pound, or even less? Season in and season out, would there not be a larger buying element, were it possible to purchase asparagus in smaller units more generally?

From the standpoint of better grading, the possibility of examining more of the stock in loose crates should have a tendency to improvement. Those shippers who are most careful would, in due course, benefit from their efforts. Those who are not so careful or conscientious would be forced by keener competition to improve their grading. While there is little room for complaint along this line, so far as California asparagus is concerned, the principle would apply in some measure. On stock from other sections, it would have wider application. At present, while it is apparent that there is an improvement over former years in the quality of stock shipped loose, there is some

(Continued over)

justification for the opinion of several dealers that most of the loose asparagus represents inferior quality stock, left out of the bunched product.

The following points may be cited in favor of bunching asparagus: The fine appearance of bunched stock is claimed to be a selling factor of considerable value. That stock will keep, and retain its fresh appearance, better when bunched, hardly admits of argument. Some dealers assert that a large portion of the loose asparagus is bought with the idea of bunching it, before resale to the retail trade. It is claimed that 13 or 14 average-sized bunches can be made from a loose crate.

An important point in favor of the bunched stock is that the trade is now used to it and possibly would resent a change to loose stock. Trade preferances are considerations of no small import to shippers and dealers, and there probably is justification for the belief that such a change would prove distasteful to many.

Another rather important consideration, favoring the retention generally of bunched "grass", is the reputation established by certain well-known brands. Jobbers and retailers undoubtedly prefer certain brands and make regular purchases from the dealers handling those particular brands. Much of the value of this reputation, it is contended, lies in the wrappers on individual bunches and this would be lost, were all stock to be packed loose.

Some of those who favor the bunched article also assert that the temptation to include ordinary or crooked stock in loose crates would be greater than with the bunched asparagus. One dealer said: "There's room for both kinds on this market; why not give us both bunched and loose stock for our different types of trade?"

16b. SPECIAL FEATURES IN ONION MARKET REPORTS.

As features of the daily market reports on onions, the Laredo office is publishing special material, such as the following:- A statement regarding the Texas shipping-point inspection work. A copy of the revised U. S. grades for Bermuda onions. A statement concerning the advantages of shipping-point inspection. A tabulation of carlot shipments of onions by months during 1925, on the basis of States of origin. Carlot unloads by months and States in New York City, Cincinnati, etc. A tabulation of freight charges on shipments from Laredo and from Asherton. Crop notes on Texas onions. Extracts from the Weekly Market Review and Summary of Carlot Shipments; import data, etc.

17b. NEWS SERVICE APPRECIATED.

Writing with regard to the field station of the Market News Service, to be operated at Mobile, Ala., this season, the Custodian of the Custom House at Mobile wrote as follows:-

"It will be a pleasure to have your representative with us again, and we will use our best endeavors to make him comfortable during his stay. I avail myself of the opportunity to again remind you that this feature is looked upon by the farming interests of Mobile County and vicinity as one of the Department's most useful activities."

E. W. STILLWELL,
Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

Stations	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably will close
SPOKANE, WASH 424 Federal Bldg.	847	Mrs. L. B. Gerry	Apples	Aug. 24	Apr. 30
ROCHESTER, N. Y. ** 419 Triangle Bldg.	837	H. S. Duncan A. L. Thomas	Apples Pears* Cabbage* Onions Peaches* Celery* Potatoes Grapes* Carrots	Sept. 4 Sept. 4 Sept. 4 Sept.14 Sept.14 Sept.16 Sept.16 Sept.21 Sept.23	May 15 Oct. 31* Mar. 12* May 1 Oct. 3* Jan. 23* May 15 Oct. 31* May 1
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. 419 Federal Bldg. MAIL: P.O. Box 86	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Apples* Potatoes Onions*	Oct. 7 Oct. 7 Oct. 7	Nov. 24* June 1 Mar. 20*
ORLANDO, FLA.** 20 Phillips Bldg. MAIL: P. O. Box 188	920	R. H. Lamb	Citrus Fruit	Nov. 2	May 1
BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS** Chamber of Commerce	931	J. D. Evers	Cabbage Beets & Carrots Potatoes Stg.Beans Tomatoes	Feb. 1 Feb. 1 Mar. 29 Apr. 1 Apr. 15	May 1 May 1 May 1 May 1 May 1
HAMMOND, LA. P. O. Bldg.	802	W.H. Mosier	Berries	Mar. 29	May 15
LAREDO, TEXAS** Chamber of Commerce	801	A. E. Prugh	Onions	Apr. 5	May 8
HASTINGS, FLA.**	851	R. L. Sutton	Potaotes	Apr. 20	May 22
MOBILE, ALA.** Custom House	924	H. E. Rutland	Cabbage Potatoes	Apr. 19 May 10	May 22 June 12
CRYSTAL CITY, TEXAS **	867	W. F. Cox	Onions	Apr. 20	May 20
The following stations closed on dates indicated:					
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO 230 Federal Bldg.	845	W. F. Cox	Potatoes	Sept. 2	Apr. 14
SANFORD, FLA.** Court House.	910	R. L. Sutton	Celery	Jan. 22	Apr. 17

** State cooperating. *Reports discontinued.

C. E. Schultz in Los Angeles office.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. CERTIFICATES TO BE ISSUED ON SOME LOUISIANA BERRIES.

C. R. Newton, Supervising Inspector for Louisiana, advises that four units of the Louisiana Farm Bureau Strawberry Association plan to have all their shipments of berries this season inspected at point of origin under Federal supervision. It is expected that several hundred cars will be inspected, requiring the services of four or five licensees. The points at which the inspections will be made are: Albany, Denham Springs and Walker, in Livingston Parish, and Bogalusa, in Washington Parish. Inspections will be made on basis of the revised 1926 U.S. grades for strawberries.

2c. MIXED CLASSES IN FLORIDA CITRUS GRADES.

The following letter of April 7 from O. G. Strauss at Orlando, deals with a new practice in grading Florida citrus fruit. His suggestion should be followed in certifying lots packed in this way. If this practice becomes general, the grades will be modified accordingly:-

" There is an increase this season in the number of cars, packed on the basis of our grades but in which the classes are mixed. Brights, Golden and some Russets are packed in the same box. The Florida Citrus Exchange calls these 'Grade Run'.

" The grading is done for texture, shape, and defects. Anything but the light-colored Russets is placed in the Choice Grade, even though it may have the texture, shape, etc., of a No. 1. I have been puzzled to note the auction prices received for fruit graded in this manner. They are among the leaders in most every instance. It is a fact, though , that the houses that put up this grade get a good, high pyramid pack in most instances, which has its effect.

" We have been handling this by stating, under Products Inspected, that the load was 'mixed classes,' making our inspection on the basis of our grades. Under the Grade Statement, we show the percentage of Brights, Golden, and Russets.

" It might be well to make this point clear to the inspectors. Kansas City just had a car to inspect that was a Choice Grade Run. They advised the Exchange that there was no provision for a Grade Run. This is, of course, correct, but I wired Mr. Branch as follows:

" 'Exchange shipping some cars they grade according our No. 1 and Choice specifications, but mix classes. These should be inspected basis of these grades, regardless of discoloration, and state under summary percentage that class as Bright, Golden or Russet.'

" With the heavy crop in prospect for next season, I expect to see even more of this Grade Run, as it cuts the operating cost of the packing house and a larger volume can be handled."

THE HAIL-STORM, which struck onion fields south of Laredo, Texas, on the evening of April 6 was the worst ever experienced in that section. Some of the hail-stones looked like small-sized eggs, and the sides of the hills were entirely white. The Supervising Inspector is doubtful whether any of these hail-damaged onions will carry well to market.

3c. LEATHER ROT IN LOUISIANA STRAWBERRIES.

Dr. B. H. Rose, of the Bureau of Plant Industry, has submitted the following statement:- "Leather Rot is now appearing in strawberries from Louisiana, occasionally in rather high percentage. To insure accurate diagnosis, inspectors should re-read sections 27, 28 and 29 of the Strawberry inspection circular. These mention, among other things, the occurrence of mold on the outside of the berries, when they reach the market, - a condition which was quite marked in every lot of Louisiana berries I saw last week in Boston, New York and Philadelphia. It doubtless is to be seen at all other markets, where Louisiana berries are arriving.

"Gray Mold is not seen so often on the fruit surface. When it does appear, it soon takes on a gray cast, because of spore production, instead of remaining white indefinitely, like the Leather Rot fungus.

"Gray Mold Rot differs from Leather Rot in being more spongy and leaky and in the water-soaked appearance of the affected flesh. Berries affected by Leather Rot usually cut dry, though (as the products circular states) they sometimes are quite leaky."

4c. INSPECTIONS IN WENATCHEE-OKANOGAN DISTRICT.

Under date of April 5, C. H. Behnke, Supervising Inspector at Wenatchee, Wash., submitted the following interesting report concerning inspections in the Wenatchee-Okanogan district this season to April 2:

Apple Shipments and Inspections, Wenatchee-Okanogan District.

Season	Total Carlot Shipments of Apples	Total Carlot Inspections of Apples	Percentage of Shipments Inspected
1925-26, to April 2:	15,945	10,741	68%
1924-25, to April 3:	12,916	5,241	40%
1923-24, to April 4:	17,619	7,151	39%

Mr. Behnke adds that "the total number of cars certified in this district so far this season is approximately 50% of the total cars certified in the entire State of Washington. To date, I have record of only four cars that were reinspected in terminal markets and reversed as to grade, which is equivalent to about 4/100 of 1%, or more pure than the test of Ivory soap." Detailed figures on the basis of products and months are given below:-

Inspections by Commodities, July 1, 1925 to April 1, 1926
Wenatchee-Okanogan District

	Apples	Pears	Apricots	Prunes	Peaches	Mixed	Total
July	4	0	14	0	0	1	19
Aug.	141	11	0	4	1	2	159
Sept.	2,033	62	0	4	1	1	2,101
Oct.	4,217	46	0	0	0	0	4,263
Nov.	1,831	9	0	0	0	0	1,840
Dec.	769	1	0	0	0	0	770
Jan.	676	0	0	0	0	0	676
Feb.	755	0	0	0	0	0	755
March	315	0	0	0	0	0	315
Total	10,741	129	14	8	2	4	10,898

RECEIVING-POINT INSPECTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH, 1926.

Markets	Total Inspections	Total Same Month 1925	Inspections for Carriers	Declined for Lack of Time	Total Fees
Atlanta	60	61	5	0	$ 250.50
Baltimore	32	20	2	0	126.50
Boston	116	121	30	4	496.50
Buffalo	33	53	6	0	132.50
Chicago	264	305	0	0	1429.50
Cincinnati	57	40	0	0	285.50
Cleveland	141	115	59	0	621.50
Columbus	27	27	0	0	116.00
Denver	21	9	0	0	84.00
Detroit	92	96	18	1	351.50
Duluth	25	0	0	0	100.00
Fort Worth	28	15	0	0	106.50
Harrisburg	2	1	2	0	8.00
Houston	0	18	0	0	-
Indianapolis	51	36	3	0	205.00
Kansas City	64	71	3	0	268.50
Los Angeles	9	4	0	0	36.00
Memphis	41	35	31	0	165.50
Milwaukee	27	28	1	0	109.00
Minneapolis	70	81	0	0	295.50
Newark	23	0	0	0	93.50
New Haven	95	39	4	0	422.50
New Orleans	88	109	48	0	351.00
New York	581	862	236	0	2348.75
Norfolk	18	15	3	0	77.00
Omaha	38	41	4	0	147.50
Philadelphia	87	129	35	0	362.00
Pittsburgh	102	85	19	0	424.00
Portland	33	21	9	0	137.00
Raleigh	3	0	0	0	12.00
St. Louis	80	114	30	0	358.50
Salt Lake City	5	0	0	0	20.00
San Diego	0	23	0	0	-
San Francisco	10	14	0	0	37.50
Washington	19	27	1	0	78.00
Wichita	18	0	5	0	69.00
Wilkes-Barre	15	15	5	0	77.00
TOTAL	2375	2630	559	5	$10203.25

5c. DISREGARD REQUEST IN PARAGRAPH 4c, DIVISION LETTER MARCH 12.

We have been advised by F. E. Bailey of Washington, that payment has been received of the outstanding account against the W. S. Hurst & Company, Portland, Oregon. It will not be necessary, therefore, to ask prepayment of fees for inspections which may be requested by this firm, as instructed in Par. 4c, Division Letter of March 12.

INSPECTIONS FOR THE NAVY AND MARINE CORPS DURING MARCH, 1926.

SYMBOLS: N - NAVY M - MARINE CORPS	ALL FIGURES IN THESE COLUMS REPRESENT POUNDS									
	Fruits and Vegetables PASSED		Fruits and Vegetables REJECTED		TOTAL QUANTITY INSPECTED		"Cuts" Made to Comply with Specifications		Items Billed Short-weight	
STATIONS	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M
BOSTON	77462	3177	450	0	77912	3177	90	0	0	0
NEW YORK	167854	78938	3524	1242	171378	80180	0	0	0	0
NORFOLK	620323	0	46054	0	666377	0	0	0	0	0
PHILADELPHIA	126420	15741	6627	392	133047	16133	995	156	0	0
SAN DIEGO	298577	54972	1098	634	299675	55606	1446	393	0	0
SAN FRANCISCO	236250	0	32000	0	268250	0	0	0	0	0
SAN PEDRO	34500	0	1600	0	36100	0	0	0	0	0
VALLEJO	190095	28935	3319	5772	193414	34707	370	0	0	0
TOTAL	1751481	181763	94672	8040	1846153	189803	2901	549	0	0
INSPECTIONS MADE FOR U.S. SHIPPING BOARD										
NEW YORK	29916		225		30141		0		0	
NORFOLK	51417		1335		52752		399		0	
TOTAL	81333		1560		82893		399		0	

In addition to theaabove, the New York office inspected the following:

	Vegetables	Fruits	Rejections
For the United States Lines.....	204,071	100,870	7458
For the United American Lines...	- - -	40,415	616
For the Munson Line.....	44,042	21,480	30
For the American Diamond Line...	11,066	2,495	50
For the American Merchant Line..	9,727	3,818	310
For the American France Line	9,604	2,422	50
For the American West & So.African	1,760	1,846	-
Total	280,270	173,246	8,514

The Vallejo office also inspected and passed 32,715 lbs. of bread, and 120 lbs. of rolls for the Navy.

6c. FLORIDA SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTIONS.

The following inspections were made at Florida shipping points during the period March 16 to 31:-

- FRUITS -

Section	Grapefruit	Oranges	Tangerines	Mixed	Total
Clermont	0	3	0	4	7
East Lake	0	2	0	2	4
Lakeland	1	0	0	2	3
Leesburg	14	0	0	3	17
Mt. Dora	0	24	0	4	28
Tavares	1	5	0	3	9
Umatilla	4	12	0	7	23
Totals	20	46	0	25	91
Totals to March 15	279	440	43	258	1020
	299	486	43	283	1,111

- VEGETABLES -

Section	Celery	Cabbage	Total
Leesburg	0	12	12
Matoaka	28	0	28
Montclair	0	8	8
Oneco	7	0	7
Sanford	195	0	195
Wagner	4	0	4
Totals	234	20	254
Totals to March 15	511	4	515
	745	24	769

TOTAL INSPECTIONS FRUITS AND VEGETABLES TO MARCH 31, ---------- 1,880

7c. APPLE EXPORTING SEASON ABOUT TO CLOSE.

A Portland, Ore., dispatch to the press of April 7 states that the last of the 1925 apple crop of Oregon and Washington to move to European markets has gone forward from Portland via refrigerator steamships passing through the Panama Canal. The season's exports, 947,798 boxes, were below the total of 1924, but better prices were realized.

ROBERT BIER,
Supervising Inspector.

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Robb left Thursday for an extended trip, which will include southwestern Missouri; northwestern Arkansas; Wichita, Kans; Western Slope of Colorado; Salt Lake City, Utah; California, and the northwestern States. His visit to the Central States is for the purpose of aiding in the Department's campaign for more efficient spraying of apples, particularly for the better control of the codling moth. A conference of Federal supervisors from the western States will be held at Sacramento during the first week in May. The renewal of cooperative shipping-point agreements with the various States visited also will be taken up and definite plans will be made for the summer and fall inspection work. The Sacramento conference will be attended by W. F. Allewelt and E. E. Conklin, Jr., of Sacramento; E. F. McKune, of Colorado; L. G. Schultz, of Idaho, and F. E. Bailey, of Washington. Mr. Robb's trip probably will require about six weeks.

W. C. Hackleman, of the New York City office, was in Washington on Wednesday, for a conference regarding inspection work in eastern markets.

G. R. Warren, who has completed his supervision of Maine potato inspections and has been in New York City this week, will report for further duty at Hastings, Fla., early next week. He will supervise inspection work on Florida potatoes.

George E. Prince, who has been taking training in inspection work at Chicago since March 22, expects to arrive in Washington this Saturday, en route to Hastings, Fla., where he will assist with potato inspections until the end of the month.

W. F. Cox closed the Idaho Falls field station on Thursday and is now en route to Crystal City, Texas, where he will issue market reports on Bermuda onions, beginning next Tuesday. He expects to stop at the San Antonio office, to confer with J. A. Hunter.

Friends of Miss Everil Worrell, who was a member of the Market News project in Washington from 1917 to 1920 and who has since been employed in the Bureau of Chemistry, will be interested to learn of her marriage on April 3 to J. C. Murphy, one of the chemists in that Bureau.

Robert Bier went to Norfolk on Wednesday evening, for conference on Thursday with various State and Federal representatives regarding the personnel to handle the shipping-point inspection work this season in North Carolina, Virginia and Maryland. Some of these representatives also will hold a conference on sweet potatoes grades, in which discussion Wm. E. Lewis will participate.

Mrs. Elizabeth Estes, of Mr. Clay's section, is on a period of indefinite leave, beginning last Saturday. Miss Ellen O'Donnell, of the clerical pool, is handling Mrs. Estes' work for the present.

The Atlanta office began to publish daily market reports on asparagus on April 5, for the special benefit of growers and shippers in that region.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

H. A. Spilman last week attended hearings at the Capitol on the standard hamper and basket bill, these first hearings being before the House committee. This week, he attended similar hearings before the Senate committee. Mr. Tenny, Assistant Chief of the Bureau, also took part in these discussions, and representatives were present from national organizations of growers, shippers and the trade.

Mrs. C. A. Maxwell, of the Los Angeles office, has resigned, effective April 16. She has been on the Los Angeles staff since July, 1924. Her position will be filled by Miss Opal Yeoman, of the Washington office. Miss Yeoman left Washington yesterday afternoon, and will stop at her home in Wyoming for two days, arriving in Los Angeles about next Thursday.

F. E. Hooper, of the New York inspection staff, is assisting temporarily with the rush of work in Boston.

R. C. Lindstrom has returned to Chicago, after having substituted for Ray C. Bish in Cleveland about 10 days.

Mr. Stillwell expects to leave Sunday, to confer with market news men, growers, shippers and State officials in southern and western States, relative to the market news program during the coming season. On Monday he will meet George R. Ross, Chief of the North Carolina Division of Markets, at Southern Pines. Two days probably will be spent in North Carolina producing sections. Mr. Stillwell will then proceed to Atlanta, Ga., Jacksonville, Fla., and other points in those States. Conferences are planned at Mobile and Montgomery, Ala.; Crystal Springs, Miss., Hammond and New Orleans, La., and at Brownsville, San Antonio, Laredo and Fort Worth, Texas. He probably will be at New Orleans around May 5 and in Texas by May 10. From Texas, Mr. Stillwell will proceed to California and later to the Pacific Northwest. He expects to be away from Washington about two months, and during his absence Mr. Boree will be in charge of the Market News Service.

A wire from Mr. Samson indicates that he was at Olympia and Seattle on Wednesday and at Wenatchee on Thursday. He has held meetings regarding arsenic spray residue at Boise, Idaho; Walla Walla, Yakima, Grandview, Pasco and Kennewick, Wash., and Portland, Oregon, which were attended by prominent growers, shippers and horticulturists. A bulletin on this matter is being released to all Washington growers by the State Dept. of Agriculture, and Mr. Samson has great confidence that the trouble will be corrected this season.

Latest word from B. E. Shaffer is to the effect that he had visited the asparagus sections of South Carolina and Georgia and was on his way to Florida, where he will make a study of the grading and packing of potatoes and cucumbers.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 7, NO. 17
April 23, 1926.
(Contents Confidential)

1a. OUR CHICAGO OFFICE MOVED TO NEW QUARTERS. (Important)

This Saturday, April 24, the Chicago office of the Fruit and Vegetable Division will be moved to the new Produce Exchange Building, adjacent to the South Water Market. The address will be 1425 South Racine Avenue, and all mail and other communications should be sent to the new address, beginning immediately. Our offices on the 9th floor of the Produce Exchange Building are reported to be very light and attractive, and will be much more convenient to the wholesale produce district. Please insert the new address on all lists in your office.

2a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR APRIL 17:

Page 245 - Special paragraphs on apples in the weekly review.
246 - Texas Bermuda Onions Delayed, - by A. E. Prugh.
247 - Heavy production of California asparagus. (filler)
- South American Honey Dew melons in Los Angeles. (filler)
256 - Production of Palestine Almonds.

3a. NEW STATISTICAL BULLETIN ON POTATOES BY B. of R.E.

The Bureau of Railway Economics, Washington, D. C. (connected with the American Railway Assn.) has issued a new Bulletin No. 12 on "Potatoes." This 16-page pamphlet is dated February, 1926, and copies probably can be had by those who need them, on application to the Bureau of Railway Economics, Transportation Bldg., Washington.

The general title of this bulletin is "Commodity Prices in Their Relation to Transportation Costs," but specific mention should be made of potatoes, when requesting copies, as the Bureau has a series of similar reports on various commodities. The front page is decorated with an outline map of the United States, showing the distribution of potatoes from Maine, Wisconsin, Idaho and Florida. Charts in the bulletin show the monthly range of retail prices of potatoes from six States in New York City and Chicago during the 1924-25 season. Another chart illustrates the spread of farm prices at six representative shipping points for the past two seasons, on the basis of weeks. The sources of potato supply in New York City and Chicago are shown by maps, and a series of six maps shows the destinations of shipments from Maine, Michigan, Wisconsin, Idaho, Florida and Virginia. Still another chart illustrates the relation between potato production and carlot shipments in each State. The bulletin includes tabulations of farm prices, city wholesale prices, and freight rates, and aims to show that freight rates do not affect the price of potatoes. Many of the data were obtained from our Bureau.

4a. UTAH EXPECTS MANY PEACHES AND ONIONS.

In a letter written from Salt Lake City some weeks ago, Walter Kingsbury gave the following information regarding crop conditions in Utah;-

"Everything looks favorable for big crops and lots of inspection work next summer. The peach trees have had a year's rest, on account of the almost total crop failure last year, and should bear a heavy crop, unless a late frost catches the blossoms. There is talk of doubling the acreage in Spanish onions again. They certainly get heavy yields from this variety. In one field, a yield of 2,000 bushels per acre was verified. Utah is a beautiful State, and we like it here very much."

5a. ASPARAGUS SCHOOLS IN CALIFORNIA.

C. J. Hansen, of the San Francisco office, sent the following clipping from a local newspaper:-

ASPARAGUS SCHOOLS.

California has a unique position in the educational world, for this is the only State that provides educational opportunity for children whose parents are employed in a seasonal occupation. Each year at this season the strange schools start, the initial day being set in conformity with the ripening of the asparagus in the Delta regions of the Sacramento River. The school hours are also adapted to the hours of the asparagus cutters.

From up and down the coast the wanderers who go from one seasonal occupation to another gather in spring in the Delta. They come in Fords and bring their families. The State does not propose to see these children lose the chance for an education, and so a fund provides for the asparagus schools. The first season such a school started, the classes were held in a tent, but by the third year the men back of the asparagus industry realized their obligations and built a substantial structure.

Early in the morning the children leave their tent homes and go to school, just as their parents are leaving for the fields. By this arrangement the little hands are kept from mischief. Many of the children receive the only education they will ever have in these schools, for during the rest of the year their parents are following seasonal trails in States where education of itinerants is not regarded as a State duty.

One of the schools is on Bradford Island and outsiders can only reach it by using a rowboat. The asparagus fields are on the island and so the school is placed there, within easy access of the children.

It is a sigh of a State's greatness, when it adjusts its school machinery to the needs of the children of industrial wanderers.

6a. A POTATO BOYCOTT IN PROVIDENCE.

A Providence, R. I., dispatch to the press of April 16 says: "Members of the Housewives' League of Providence will use potatoes only three days a week and substitutes on other days, according to a statement issued April 15, by Mrs. Philip H. Mitchell, president. Mrs. Mitchell urged all families of the city to unite against high prices for the potato, which now sells for $8 per two-bushel sack."

7a. DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME OBSERVED IN SOME MARKETS.

The following letter has been received from J. J. Gardner, of the Pittsburgh inspection office:-

"In accordance with the custom of several years past, the Pittsburgh offices of the Inspection Service and Market News Service will observe daylight saving time, along with the other businesses of the city, commencing next Sunday, April 25. Eastern Standard time is the only official time which may be used in the State of Pennsylvania; consequently, there will be no turning ahead of clocks. Work will simply commence at 8:00 A.M. instead of 9:00 A.M."

The editor understands that Philadelphia also will observe these earlier hours.

8a. EXPORTS OF APPLES AND OTHER FRUITS.

An editorial in Northwest Produce News (Seattle) for April 16 says: "Apple sales abroad declined more than $3,000,000 in 1925, while the exports of fresh fruit gained in total value almost $1,000,000. These two related facts are of supreme importance to the Northwest, because much of the apple exportation is from this State. Oranges, pears, grapefruit and grapes are going into the world's commerce in greater volume and are competing in a general way with the major orchard crop of the Northwest. Everything possible should be done to keep apples in the lead in world consumption, because it is the export market which absorbs surplus production. Every obstacle to the ready sale of apples abroad ought to be removed without hesitancy. The English market is threatened by the arsenic spray scare, which can be nullified by prompt action on the part of governmental agencies looking toward enforcement of regulations which shall prevent overdosed apples from being sent into trade channels. The market open to all growers should not be threatened because some of them are careless. In the past year England was America's best apple customer. The United Kingdom took about 53% of the total boxed export and about 80% of the barreled product. Canada bought 11% of the boxed apples, and Germany was a close third in the list. Half of the fruit export was apples, valued at $21,063,000, a considerable part of which came to the Northwest. This sum plays too big a part in the prosperity of this State to be lost because no one will shoulder the responsibility of finding means of keeping foreign markets open."

9a. ADDITIONAL FOREIGN NEWS.

The following mimeographed reports were issued by the Foreign Marketing Section since the last Division Letter:- F.S.: A-50, "Paris Takes American Apples in Carload Lots," by Edwin Smith. F.S.:P-13, "Weather Favorable in Foreign Prune Districts." F.S.:O-26, "1926 Onion Seed Harvest in Canary Islands Suffers Loss."

10a. MARKETING OF WEST VIRGINIA APPLES.

About 500 carloads of apples of the 1925 crop were marketed by the Martinsburg Fruit Exchange, Martinsburg, W. Va., for its 70 members. A considerable portion of the output was exported. This Exchange is one of the oldest fruit marketing organizations in the Potomac-Shenandoah Valley apple producing section, having been formed in the fall of 1915 along lines suggested by the U.S.D.A. In addition to the working capital, a selling charge of 5% is made on fruit marketed.

11a. NEWS OF CALIFORNIA WEATHER AND CROP CONDITIONS.

A letter of April 14, from C. E. Schultz, at Los Angeles, contained the following information regarding crop conditions and the heavy rainfall, experienced recently throughout the State:

"We have had one of the heaviest rainfalls all over California, ever recorded in April. As a result, the total rain to date this season is far above normal and a serious drought has been broken. Col. Hersey, the Weather Bureau representative, stated at the Federal Man's Association today that California in the past 50 years has experienced two periods when the rainfall has been less than half of normal for three successive years. Before the recent rain, the precipitation was less than half of normal to date, but this April has experienced a rainfall twice as much as normal and second only to one other April recorded. From April 4 to 8, Los Angeles received approximately 7½ inches of rain, or an inch more than the total for all of last year, making a total for this season over 17, inches, which is about the average. This was about the average over the State; some sections received more and some less. A few mountainous districts received as high as 20 inches in the storm. The effect of the rain will be very beneficial to agriculture generally throughout the State.

"The lettuce season in the Imperial Valley was closed very abruptly by the rain down there. In the Los Angeles district, the lettuce now maturing has been seriously affected by the rains, and at present the county is very active in enforcing standardization requirements on lettuce, according to the California law. Most all shipments now, are of very ordinary quality, being soft and rain-damaged, and some slime is showing up.

"A little rain was reported in the Coachella Valley, but unofficial reports are that very little damage was done to the onion crop.

"Cantaloupes in Imperial Valley were growing vigorously when I left and, because of the large amount of early covered and brush-covered acreage and also the increased percentage of the new HB variety plantings, there were prospects of a heavy early movement this season. Most shippers are estimating that the first car probably will be loaded around May 1, if future weather conditions permit."

THIS IS A LONG DIVISION LETTER,
but
careful reading will be fully
rewarded.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. INTERESTING ITEMS FROM LAREDO, TEXAS:

Just after the last Division Letter was completed, the following very interesting report, regarding conditions in the Laredo district, was received from A. E. Prugh:-

"The hail-storm at South Laredo on the evening of Tuesday, April 6, was the worst that ever struck this section. It was of short duration, probably 15 or 20 minutes, but played havoc with around 1,000 acres of onions, divided among a dozen growers. Hail fell in the streets of Laredo as large as the end of a man's thumb, and stones were reported falling in the stricken section as large as small-sized eggs. The sides of the hills were white, after the storm, and the cactus had the appearance of being swept with machine-gun fire. No hail insurance was carried on this acreage, but insurance saleman were busy writing policies on North Laredo onions the next morning. Fields of late onions were cut almost into the ground, and the tops were stripped from those ready to harvest. Any part of the bulb exposed was cut and bruised.

"This apparently was the first time that hail had occurred at harvesting time and growers were about equally divided in their opinions as to how to handle the crops. Some advocated plowing out the onions immediately and others believed that it was better policy to leave them in the ground. It proved that the former was the best method, as those left in the ground threw out a new top at once, just like the top from an onion set, placed in the ground in the spring gardens. When such onions were pulled, clipped and placed in crates, sprouts continued growing, and, in some crates which Mr. Gregory and myself examined on the Wormser farms, hail-struck bulbs in the middle of the crate had commenced to decay. It seemed doubtful whether many of these onions would carry to market. The loss in tonnage must be around 350 cars, and perhaps more. That seems to be a conservative estimate.

"I arrived here on April 2 and one of the first things I noticed, when looking over the fields, was that thick-necks were numerous. The cold, cloudy weather, with some rain, the latter part of March had caused too much top growth. Most estimates indicate around 4,000 cars for the Texas crop, exclusive of Collin County in the North. Estimates for Webb County, or the Laredo district, are from 975 to 1,200 cars. On present conditions, my guess would be 1,000 cars. The onions in the Upper Counties, or Winter Garden district, are reported to be slightly better quality, but I understand are planted in wider rows. In the first 100 cars moved, none would pass the U.S. No.1 grade, and most of them could hardly be classed as 'commercial-pack.'

"Growers have perfected an arrangement to hold shipments down to 100 cars a day after the first 1,000 cars move, and it seems as though they will be able to do it. They have agreed also that, after the first 1,000 cars are shipped, nothing of poorer quality than U.S. No. 2's will be moved.

"Several acres of citrus have been planted in this section, and I notice some growers experimenting with grapes. This city has shown considerable progress during the past two years. A fine hotel has been built, - the Robert E. Lee; also a large office building, in which our office is located with the Chamber of Commerce. Laredo in now the oil, as well as the onion, headquarters of this district, as they have quite an oil boom near here. Laredo's slogan is 'The Gateway to Mexico'."

(Par. 2b had to be omitted from this page for lack of space)

3b. NUMBER OF SERVICE MESSAGES INCREASED.

Services over the leased wire during March showed an increase of more than 50% over the services sent during February. The detailed report is given below:

RECORD OF SERVICES OVER LEASED WIRE DURING MARCH, 1926

Name of Market Serviced	Total Number of Services to Markets	Errors by Markets	Telegraphic Errors	Insufficient Information by Markets	Unclassified Services to Markets	Unnecessary Services **	Unanswered Services	Voluntary Corrections ***
Atlanta	12	5	2	1	4	-	-	-
Baltimore	16	4	6	-	6	-	-	4
Boston	30	13	1	4	12	-	-	1
Chicago	39	16	13	5	4	1	-	8
Cincinnati	18	9	4	1	4	-	-	1
Fort Worth*	18	6	3	3	5	-	1	-
Kansas City	32	16	7	5	4	-	-	4
Minneapolis	10	7	-	2	1	-	-	2
New York	56	16	11	10	17	-	2	26
Omaha	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Philadelphia	41	13	12	4	12	-	-	3
Pittsburgh	9	4	3	1	1	-	-	10
St. Louis	25	10	7	-	8	-	-	7
Washington	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Mar. Total	309	122	69	36	78	1	3	74
Feb. Total	199	85	36	23	50	2	2	65

* Including Dallas. *** Not included in the Total. ** By Washington.

4b. SUMMARY OF CALIFORNIA CITRUS DEAL, 1924-25.

H. A. Harris, of the Los Angeles office, has issued a summary of the 1924-25 Citrus Deal in California, and copies can be had on application to his office. This is the first time that the citrus fruit season in California has been summarized in this manner, and the report contains a lot of very useful information. An excellent map of the State shows the four producing districts, as recognized in our Market News Service. An introductory statement traces the history of the production of citrus in California, some of this material being excerpts from Farmers' Bulletin 1447. The importance of California as a producer of these fruits is emphasized, and the several varieties of fruit are discussed. Acreage, production and shipment figures are tabulated. California shipments are listed by originating stations and by months. Another list gives the titles of the numerous reports on foreign markets, many of which reports were prepared by Edwin Smith. Marketing methods, prevailing in California, are discussed briefly and the State's tentative grades for citrus are given. The summary closes with tabulations of carlot unloads of citrus in the leading city markets.

This report makes a good, companion volume for the summaries of the Florida citrus deal, issued in recent seasons, as California and Florida are the principal citrus States.

5b. SPECIAL SERVICES IN NEW JERSEY.

With the cooperation of this Bureau, Burton W. Sherburne, of the New Jersey Bureau of Markets, is arranging to distribute through the Philadelphia office and local county agents information of particular interest to growers and shippers of asparagus in that State. This special report will include market information on asparagus from Boston, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, New York and othereastern cities, and will begin about May 1, as has been the custom in recent years.

Mr. Sherburne, in a letter of April 12, also advised that Station WNJ is now broadcasting the Newark market report each morning, thereby giving wider distribution to this information.

6b. ASPARAGUS MARKET REPORTS ISSUED AT ATLANTA.

The following letter of April 10, from J. H. Hoover, of the Atlanta office, gives information of interest concerning the work there:-

"We issued our first Asparagus bulletin on April 5. On April 1, a circular letter was sent to about 200 names, and I was a little surprised with the response. The first four bulletins were sent to this entire list, but we have now cut down the mailing list to the people who made written requests. Up to date, we have received about 150 written requests for these reports and more are coming in with every mail. There has been much interest shown by the growers, both in Georgia and South Carolina.

"Arrangements have been made with the local agent of the American Railway Express Company to give us the number of crates shipped from the Georgia district each day, and this information is being shown in our report. The Express Company agent here talks with the agent at Fort Valley over the telephone each morning and gets the number of crates shipped the previous day. I believe this information is very nearly correct and it is quite valuable to the growers."

Other Interesting News

"The market news work has been very interesting the past few months, principally due to the fact that supplies have been drawn from sections that were practically unheard-of before. For instance, - Atlanta has always used New York and Maine potatoes, but this year large supplies have been received from Idaho, Washington, Colorado and Nebraska. Very few of the Atlanta dealers had ever seen a Netted Gem before. Yesterday, the first straight carload of green beans of the season came in, shipped from the Lower Rio Grande Valley. These were the first beans ever received here from Texas and the entire carload was cleaned up in three hours at $4.50 per bushel hamper."

7b. FIELD STATION NOTICES RE CONTINUANCE OF REPORTS.

When closing field stations, no notice should be published to the effect that persons wishing to continue receiving reports can secure them on application to the Washington office, unless you have first made sure that Washington will continue publishing a report on that product. This ruling was made a year ago, in the D.L. for May 1, 1925, but is not being regarded by some of the field men. Please keep this in mind. Otherwise, the Washington office is obliged to write a lot of letters, explaining that the field representative was in error and that the reports have been discontinued in Washington, also.

8b. CABBAGE SITUATION IN MOBILE DISTRICT.

The following information was received recently from H. E. Rutland, in charge of the field station at Mobile, Ala.:-

"Growers and shippers in the Mobile district of Alabama are rather discouraged over the outlook for the present season. The late, cold spring and unfavorable growing conditions caused most of the crop to be light and of ordinary quality. While some fields are in good condition and some very good stock is being shipped, many fields are showing soft heads and a considerable quantity of cabbage failed to head up and is running to seed.

"The Mobile County crop as a whole will be light. At planting time, the acreage put out indicated probable shipments of 2,000 to 2,500 cars, compared with 1,260 in 1925. Development of the cabbage, however, was so hindered that, during the second week of April, shippers were freely predicting total output from the district of only 1,000 cars. (As against these local opinions, the official forecast indicates an Alabama cabbage crop at least 75% heavier than that of last season. - Editor) Quality of the stock shipped in early April varied widely, with most shipments showing ordinary to fair quality. While some complaints from receivers have been heard, many cars from the better fields are of excellent quality and condition.

"The shipping season in the Mobile district is late and probably will be shorter than usual. A few shippers state that practically the whole crop will be moved by the middle of May, and others place the first week in May as the probable end of the season. Shipments during the second week of April were rather light, and movement had increased to only 60 cars during the seven days ending April 17. Up to that date, the total cabbage output from Alabama was about 160 cars, as against 580 to the same time last year. On a usual-terms basis, the f.o.b. price at Mobile on April 19 was $1.50-$1.75 per barrel crate, and the Chicago market was quoting this stock at $2.75-$3. Under the heavy shipments of the corresponding period last season, f.o.b. quotations had declined to $1 per crate on April 18, 1925."

9b. COACHELLA VALLEY ONIONS MOVING.

H. A. Harris wrote the following letter from Los Angeles on April 16:

"The new onion season is starting at least a week early in this market. We received our first Bermuda-type onions from Coachella on Tuesday, April 13. They were White Wax and, while of course green, were up to the average for the first of the season. Yesterday, the 15th, we received a truckload from the Bakersfield district, that were more immature and had not stopped growing even after harvesting, as sprouts were showing where the tops had been cut off.

"The first arrivals sold in a small way at 8¢ per pound and were jobbing today at $1.65-$1.75 per lug of about 25 pounds. I presume that we will not receive any Texas onions this year, since the locals are so early.

"Shippers inform me that they expect to load the first cars in the Coachella Valley about the middle of next week. A few sales have been made at $1.25-1.35 per crate for Yellows, but there has been little or no trading in the past week."

9½b. CELERY MARKET REPORTS DISCONTINUED.

Effective April 21, the mimeographed market reports on Celery were discontinued by the Washington office.

10b. ONION OUTLOOK IN COLLIN COUNTY, N. E. TEXAS.

Writing from Fort Worth on April 17, W. D. Googe made the following report on the onion situation in Collin County:-

"Collin County, Texas, reports about 1,400 acres of Yellow Bermuda onions, against 30 acres in 1925; also 1,200 acres of Crystal Wax, as compared with 200 acres last year, and 2,000 acres of Prizetakers, against 4,000 in 1925. The good returns from the small acreage of Bermudas last season and the unsatisfactory yield of Prizetakers has caused the farmers to plant the earlier varieties in 1926. Prizetakers are generally planted in 3-foot rows, with cotton between them, while probably less than half the Bermudas are planted in this manner.

"Last year there were shipped 10 cars of Yellow Bermudas, 55 cars of Crystal Wax, and 160 cars of Prizetakers, which was a much smaller crop than normal, due to extremely dry weather. So far this season, there is sufficient moisture and a good stand. With favorable weather, it is estimated locally that there will be shipped 300 cars of Yellow Bermudas, 240 cars of Crystal Wax, and 250 cars of Prizetakers. The movement is expected to begin about June 1. The Bermuda acreage centers largely around Farmersville and Princeton, and the Prizetaker acreage around McKinney.

"In addition to the large increase in acreage of Bermudas, there have been planted in the McKinney section about 800 acres of Silver King and White Pearl onions, which are expected to produce about 200 carloads under favorable conditions.

"If the yield is sufficient and market conditions are favorable, I am advised that the shippers will request Federal-State shipping-point inspection this season."

11b. SOME NEW YORK APPLES SHOWING MOLD.

Referring to quotations in one of his recent apple market wires, J. K. Boyd, of the Pittsburgh office, sent the following additional information:

"Mr. Gardner, inspector, advises that many New York apples are arriving here, showing heavy infections of Pink Mold rot, with considerable growth of mycelium throughout barrel. Trade here refers to this as moldy stock. I have personally examined some of this stock and find many apples completely covered with mold."

12b. MAPS INCLUDED IN MARKET REPORTS.

Onion market reports, issued at Laredo, Texas, recently have been illustrated with outline maps, showing the counties in the respective onion-shipping sections of the State. The principal shipping stations also are indicated, and a tabulation is given of the carlot movement from each station last season. Another table shows the total Texas and total United States shipments of all the principal fruits and vegetables during 1925, to illustrate the relative importance of Texas as a source of supply.

B. C. BOREE,
Marketing Specialist.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

Stations	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably will close
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	Mrs. L.B. Gerry	Apples	Aug. 24	Apr. 30
ROCHESTER, N. Y.** 419 Triangle Bldg.	837	H. S. Duncan A. L. Thomas	Apples Pears* Cabbage* Onions Peaches* Celery* Potatoes Grapes* Carrots	Sept. 4 Sept. 4 Sept. 4 Sept. 14 Sept. 14 Sept. 16 Sept. 16 Sept. 21 Sept. 23	May 15 Oct. 31* Mar. 12* May 1 Oct. 3* Jan. 23* May 15 Oct. 31* May 1
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. 419 Federal Bldg. MAIL: P.O. Box 86	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Apples* Potatoes Onions*	Oct. 7 Oct. 7 Oct. 7	Nov. 24* June 1 Mar. 20*
ORLANDO, FLA.** 20 Phillips Bldg. MAIL: P. O. Box 188	920	R. H. Lamb	Citrus Fruit	Nov. 2	May 1
BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS** Chamber of Commerce	931	J. D. Evers	Cabbage Beets & Carrots Potatoes Stg.Beans Tomatoes	Feb. 1 Feb. 1 Mar. 29 Apr. 1 Apr. 28	May 1 May 1 May 1 May 1 May 1
HAMMOND, LA. P. O. Bldg.	802	W. H. Mosier	Berries	Mar. 29	May 15
LAREDO, TEXAS** Chamber of Commerce	801	A. E. Prugh	Onions	Apr. 5	May 8
HASTINGS, FLA.**	851	R. L. Sutton	Potatoes	Apr. 21	May 22
MOBILE, ALA.** Custom House	924	H. E. Rutland	Cabbage Potatoes	Apr. 19 May 10	May 22 June 12
CRYSTAL CITY, TEXAS**	867	W. F. Cox	Onions	Apr. 22	May 20
The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:					
WILMINGTON, N.C.**	805	R. H. Lamb	Berries Lettuce Potatoes Stg.Beans Cucumbers	May 1 May 10 June 10 June 10 June 15	June 5 June 5 June 30 June 30 July 3
JUDSONIA, ARK.	856	Unassigned	Berries	May 3	May 22
MONETT, MO.	857	Unassigned	Berries	May 14	June 5

** State cooperating. * Reports discontinued.

C. E. Schultz in Los Angeles office.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. SEND IN MORE SPECIMENS FOR PATHOLOGISTS.

The Washington and Chicago offices have a few regular contributors of diseased specimens for pathological diagnosis. Inspectors in general should use the services of the pathologists in this way to a greater extent. During the last few weeks, several new decays of apples and other products have been found on the market, which are so nearly like other common ones that some mistakes have been made in diagnosis. It is well for all inspectors to send in specimens freely in order to have their diagnosis confirmed. This should be done even of the more common troubles, which sometimes appear in rather unusual forms. No inspector need feel that it is any reflection upon his ability to request information on such matters. On the contrary, it shows a commendable interest in his work.

The pathologists, in order to furnish the greatest possible service to our inspectors, must be kept in touch with all manifestations of the diseases of fruits and vegetables, which come under the observation of our inspectors. Each inspector therefore, will be rendering a double service by sending in specimens in this way:- first, he will be more sure of his diagnosis and keep himself properly informed on such matters, and, secondly, he will be of service to our pathologists, who always appreciate receiving such specimens.

In case you do not have a supply of the corrugated boxes, for mailing such specimens, advise the Washington office. - F.G.R.

2c. SUIT OVER CAR OF GRAPES IN PITTSBURGH.

The following letter was received from J. J. Gardner, of the Pittsburgh office, last Monday:-

"In accordance with my wire of the 12th, I appeared in Court on the 13th in response to a summons obtained by the Sales Service Company, representing Will E. Skinner, in the sale of a car of Arkansas grapes to Rice & Smith Company. Mr. Gregory inspected this car and passed it as meeting U.S.No. 1 grade. Rice and Smith contended that they bought No. 1 grapes; that this grade was better than U.S.No. 1, and that they consequently were justified in refusing to receive this car. Four different brokers and dealers in the yards upheld them in their contention. I was asked, on the stand, what the U.S. No. 1 grade meant, and told the Court that it was not an arbitrary grade, established by the Department, but only written by them as being the consensus of opinion of growers, shippers and receivers as to what a No. 1 grape consists of. Senator Muehlbronner, of the Iron City Produce Company, corroborated my evidence. We were the only two witnesses for the plaintiff. The jury gave the plaintiff damages in full, with interest and costs."

3c. REVISED GRADES FOR CANTALOUPES AND GRADES FOR GREEN CORN.

With this D. L., every inspector will receive a copy of the revised U.S. grades for cantaloupes, which will be used this season.

Copies of the new grades for Green Corn also are being distributed with this D.L. These may be used in South Texas this season.

4c. IMPORTANT NEWS ON TEXAS ONION INSPECTIONS.

On April 20, Mr. Conklin wired from Austin that the present Texas onion grades, promulgated April, 1924, do not provide for "commercial-pack." Inspections to date, at Texas shipping points, have been on the basis of Texas-U.S. No.1 or No.2, but some shippers around Laredo have been quoting stock as "commercial grade." When men in terminal markets are requested to make inspection of any of these so-called "commercial-grade" cars, Mr. Conklin suggests that, if the shipment is up to the requirements of this grade, the certificate should read: "Meets requirements former Texas commercial grade." It will be remembered that this grade, in use during the 1921 and 1922 seasons, required 50% of No.1 stock and allowed 15% pinks and 10% defects. To refresh the memory on this point, all terminal market inspectors are asked to read again the specifications for "commercial-pack," as given in the Texas grade booklet, dated November, 1921.

5c. FLORIDA SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTIONS.

During the period April 1 to 15, the following inspections were made at shipping points in the State of Florida:

-FRUITS-

Section	Grapefruit	Oranges	Tangerines	Mixed	Total
Clermont	1	0	0	1	2
Groveland	0	1	0	0	1
East Lake	0	3	0	1	4
Lakeland	1	1	0	0	2
Leesburg	3	4	0	0	7
Mt. Dora	2	11	0	7	20
Tavares	0	3	0	3	6
Umatilla	2	11	0	3	16
Totals	9	34	0	15	58
Totals to April 1	299	486	43	283	1,111
	308	520	43	298	1,169

-VEGETABLES-

Section	Celery	Cabbage	Total
Lake Monroe	1	0	1
Leesburg	0	46	46
Manatee	1	0	1
Matoaka	27	0	27
Montclair	0	1	1
Oneco	12	0	12
Sanford	187	0	187
Wagner	16	0	16
Totals	244	47	291
Totals to April 1	745	24	769
	989	71	1,060

6c. WHITE SPOTS ON CALIFORNIA PEAS.

Please refer to Par. 18c on page 240, which happened to be mimeographed before this (present) item was written. In connection with the white spots on the pods of peas, the Bureau of Entomology describes thrips injury to peas as being more like stipple work, with spots entirely white, due to destruction of the chlorophyll by the insect. Spots due to bruising are likely to be larger and more likely to have a slightly greenish tinge, because the chlorophyll has not all been extruded. See page 240.

The following news was gathered from California Inspectors' Notes, April 16:

7c. A FEW CARROTS IN SACRAMENTO DISTRICT.

A few cars of sacked carrots are being shipped from Sacramento to New York. This stock appears to be mostly field run, little attempt having been made to sort out defects. Inspection is being requested for condition only.

There are about 500 acres of lettuce in the Sacramento district, - somewhat more than last year. Though some cars are now being shipped, the stock is generally soft, the $3.00 market inducing premature harvesting. Consequently, little inspection is being done.

8c. PACIFIC FRUIT AND PRODUCE FINED $50 FOR APPLE VIOLATIONS.

A complaint telephoned to Mr. Allewelt from Gordon Laing, County Horticultural Commissioner at Marysville, brought about the arrest and conviction of the Pacific Fruit and Produce Company, Sacramento, for selling apples with excessive decay. This firm had been the cause of several complaints in the past and had been warned to be more careful in the grading of their fruit. A dealer complained to Mr. Laing about a truckload of apples he had bought in Sacramento and, upon checking up, it was found that they came originally from the Pacific Fruit and Produce Company. The owner of the fruit, Mr. W. Dold, was told to return the stock to the Pacific Fruit & Produce Company, where Mr. Morrison, Commissioner of Sacramento County, and Mr. Allewelt went through a number of boxes of this and other lots in the house, some of which showed 17% to 20% Blue Mold decay. The firm pleaded guilty and was fined $50 by the Sacramento court.

9c. TEXAS TO GIVE CALIFORNIA A RUN FOR EARLY MARKETS.

"Southern Texas can grow nearly all of the fruits and vegetables produced in California," says B. L. Smith, of Smith-Frank Company, Sacramento canners. "When better transportation facilities are installed, they will give us some keen competition."

Mr. Smith has just returned from a trip East, where he visited the principal markets. California has to pay transcontinental freight rates- about $1.05 per hundred pounds - in order to reach the eastern markets. The rate by water via Panama to New York and the other Atlantic ports is about 40¢ per hundred. Therefore, when the commodities will stand the additional time for ocean shipment, it is cheaper to ship by boat to New York or Baltimore, then by rail as far west as Cleveland and Pittsburgh. The mid-western States cannot take advantage of water-transportation, yet they must pay nearly the same transcontinental railway rate as the points near the Atlantic ports. Consequently, the exploitation of the nearby Texas producing sections is of great advantage to them, and the growing of early crops in the coastal section between Houston and the Rio Grande is being encouraged by the mid-west markets.

"It is a marvel to me where all the canned goods go," said Mr. Smith, "when one sees that pears, for instance, may be found fresh practically the year round in any of the larger cities; fresh tomatoes and peas can be had almost 12 months in the year, and fresh strawberries during nearly that period. The fact remains, however, that the output and consumption of canned goods in the United States is increasing right along, and this in the face of increased shipments of green fruits and vegetables. The recent discoveries relative to vitamines have been a big factor in enlarging the demand for all fruits and vegetables."

10c. NEW CANNED-FRUIT STANDARDIZATION WORK BEGINS.

W. H. Tuggle, of San Francisco, conferred last week with Director C. H. Hecke; Assistant Director, Lee A. Strong, and members of the Bureau of Fruit and Vegetable Standardization, at Sacramento.

Mr. Tuggle was appointed on April 19 as Supervising Inspector in charge of the administration of the new California Canned Fruit Standardization Act, which was passed by the last session of the legislature. A seasonal force of five inspectors will work under his direction during the packing season.

11c. IMPORTANT REVISIONS TO GRAPE GRADES SUGGESTED.

The United States Department of Agriculture, and California State Department of Agriculture, after careful study, have issued from the Sacramento office suggestions for revision of the United States grades for grapes, including juice grapes, table grapes, and sawdust-pack table grapes. These revisions are being submitted for the criticism of growers, shippers, and dealers, before being issued officially.

12c. LAST YEAR'S COACHELLA ONION DEAL A GOOD ONE.

With Coachella Valley growers and several State inspectors eagerly watching the maturing of the onion crop, it is interesting to review the figures of last year's onion deal, which has rightly been called one of the most successful single inspection deals on record by the Bureau.

The deal was begun with one car on April 27, 1925, the main shipments beginning about May 5, and closing about June 8. Eleven men worked in the district during the peak of shipments, which reached 42 cars one day, and about 7 or 8 men during the bulk of the season. The following table gives an idea of the high percentage of shipments inspected:

Month, 1925	Cars Inspected	Total Shipments
April	3	4
May	629	699
June	46	50
TOTALS	678	753

The inspection of over 90% of the total shipments, is one of the highest deal-averages on record, and shows the usefulness of the U.S. grades and certificates. The deal averages 2.6 cars per man day; 7 or 8 cars a day were inspected by several of the boys during the peak.

Another gratifying feature of last year's deal was the thorough manner in which it was possible to inspect the various growers' lots. As each truckload was brought to the cars, it was held or set on the platform until the inspector could open and examine several crates from the lot, thus making sure that each lot was up to U. S. No. 1 grade before it was placed in the car. Failing to grade, the lot would be reconditioned or placed in a mo-grade car. This procedure was made possible by the rigid requirements of the buyers, most of whom were taking stock only with the provision that it graded U.S.No 1. Lots which showed defects in excess of the tolerance were set to one side and the Mexican packers who put up the faulty stock were brought in and made to recondition what they had packed. This was made possible by the contracts which most of the growers had with their picking crews, stipulating that the Mexicans were to put up a U.S.No. 1 pack.

Last year the weather conditions were unusually favorable and sunscald was practically negligible, being confined to three or four hot days. Altogether 678 cars were inspected, of which about 40 failed to grade U.S.No. 1, -dirt and size being the principal defects.

This year the acreage is estimated around 2,200 and should yield 1,350 cars, under favorable conditions. This will be nearly twice as many as were shipped last year. It is expected that movement will begin by the last week in April.

The inspection office will be located at the new Indio hotel, which will be the rendezvous for buyers this year. The fire, which destroyed a large part of Coachella last summer, also makes it less desirable to be located there. Tom Harmon will be in charge of this deal.

A meeting of the growers and shippers of Bermuda onions was held at Indio on the evening of April 20, to discuss standardization of that commodity. S. S. Rogers, of the Sacramento office, attended the meeting.

13c. INSPECTIONS IN LAREDO DISTRICT.

M. C. Gregory wrote from Laredo, Texas, as follows, on April 17:-

"Up until today, the shipping-point inspection work around Laredo has been very light; we have inspected but 20 cars here. Almost continuous cool, cloudy weather, resulting in delayed growth of the onions and very poor quality, is mostly responsible for the lack of work. The hail damaged area of over 1,000 acres also affected us, because applicants for inspections last year had most of the acreage in that district.

"On Thursday night, April 15, the trade held a meeting here and agreed to buy nothing but the U.S.No. 1 stock on basis of Government inspection, beginning next Monday. If they stick to this plan, we will have plenty of work, but what they actually do remains to be seen. Stock to date has been harvested before full maturity. I have not seen any fields showing as many as 25% fallen tops. One grower told me today that he was not going to pull any more onions for another week; if all growers do this, the stock will come much nearer passing the grade. It looks as if shipments will continue moving fairly heavy until the middle of May.

"Mr. Seymour spent a day with me this week and we went over the territory thoroughly. I am handling the work at Encinal, a point 38 miles on the San Antonio road, it being more convenient, with better road, to Laredo than from Carrizo Springs."

14c. RECORD OF COLORADO INSPECTIONS.

For the 1925-26 season to April 10, inclusive, 18,079 inspections had been made in Colorado by the cooperative Inspection Service. This includes 3,823 cars of melons, handled last fall. A great many of the inspections in other districts of the State were of potatoes. About 115 cars were examined during the week ending April 10. Totals by districts for the season are as follows:

Monte Vista district	5,403	Grand Junction district	1,060
Delta district.....	4,296	Denver district.....	986
Eagle district.....	1,827	Greeley district.....	684

15c. UTAH TOMATOES WIN FAVOR IN TEXAS MARKETS.

Walter Kingsbury, of the Salt Lake City office, submitted a clipping from the Salt Lake Tribune of April 10, which tells of the favorable comments of brokers, regarding Utah tomatoes and potatoes, sold in Texas markets. It appears that this stock is liked so well by the trade that it will be given preference over the same products from California. Much of the popularity of the Utah tomatoes depends on the strict grading given this product at shipping point. Mr. Kingsbury's letter of April 13 continues as follows:-

"I am enclosing an interesting clipping from the Salt Lake Tribune of April 10. Most of the tomatoes handled by the brokers in question were shipped by Smith & Hancock, of Salt Lake City, all of whose tomatoes were inspected and packed under our supervision. We inspected 132 cars of tomatoes last season, as compared with two cars in 1924, and none in previous seasons.

"There will be two new tomato deals in Utah this season. About 150 acres are being planted in Washington County, in the southwestern part of the State. This section is some three or four weeks earlier than the northern part and the crop is timed to come on early in July, with the close of the Tennessee and Texas deals and before the main Utah crop moves. All shipments from this district probably will go out under inspection. Some 75 acres also are being planted near Moab, which has a season between that of Washington County and northern Utah.

"The acreage to be planted in the main crop sections of the State for shipment fresh is still problematical, but doubtless will be smaller than last year. The canning acreage will be greatly reduced from last year, when an unusually large crop was produced. The canneries have large carry-over stocks on hand and are standing pat on their refusal to contract tomatoes at last year's price of $12.00 a ton.

"Indications point to an increased acreage of early potatoes. The way things are shaping up, the bulk of the shipments probably will be inspected at shipping-point this year."

16c. KAW VALLEY POTATO PROSPECTS.

Writing on April 16, regarding prospective inspection work in Kansas this year, E. A. Stokdyk, Specialist in Marketing, at Manhattan, Kansas, gave the following information:-

"Our Kaw Valley potato crop went in the ground in good shape and was covered with a blanket of snow about one foot deep, a little over a week. No injury has resulted and, with the delay in the season, I doubt if the crop will be frosted. We will, no doubt, have a good crop to market. I shall keep you advised from time to time in regard to the prospect of the crop and the demand for the inspection service.

"There is a possibility that some of the truck growers in and around Hutchinson will want some inspection work, but the number of cars will be very limited."

17c. SOME FROST DAMAGE IN WILMINGTON SECTION, N.C.

The following report was received from Mr. Stillwell on April 20:-

"The Wilmington district was damaged by cold last night. About 40% of the beans and cucumbers damaged, but expect a net loss of only 10% to 15% on account of replantings. The damage north to Mount Olive is slightly severe, including some injury to bloom fruit. Strawberry damage at Chadbourn is negligible and the first car is expected next week."

TEMPORARY HEADQUARTERS OF EASTERN AND SOUTHERN SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION DEALS

State	Federal Supervisor	Products	Approx. date of Opening	Closing
FLORIDA:	O. G. Strauss, Box 188, Orlando, Fla.	Citrus Fruit	Oct. 1	May 15
	J. C. Townsend, Jr., Box 495, Sanford, Fla.	Celery	Jan. 1	Apr. 30
		Cabbage	Mar. 5	Apr. 30
	G. R. Warren, Hastings, Fla.	Potatoes	Apr. 20	May 22
TEXAS:	C. D. Shirley, Harlingen, Texas	Vegetables	Jan. 1	May 15
	M. C. Gregory, Chamber of Commerce, Laredo, Texas	Onions	Apr. 5	May 8
	H. T. Longino, Crystal City, Texas	Onions	Apr. 10	May 15
ARKANSAS:	G. W. Winfrey, Van Buren, Ark.	Berries	Apr. 28	June 5
The following stations probably will open about date indicated:				
TENNESSEE:	R. C. Lindstrom, Jackson, Tenn. (W)	Berries	May 3	May 29
	J. A. Marks, Chattanooga, Tenn. (E)	Berries	May 3	May 29
The following stations closed about the dates indicated:				
NEW YORK:	O. N. Harsha, 415 Triangle Bldg., Rochester, N. Y.	Apples	Aug. 20	May 15
		Onions	Sept. 1	May 1
		Pears	Sept. 1	Oct. 31
		Peaches	Sept. 10	Oct. 1
		Potatoes	Sept. 15	May 15
		Grapes	Oct. 1	Oct. 31
		Cabbage	Oct. 1	Mar. 15
MAINE:	G. R. Warren, Ritchie Block, Caribou.	Potatoes	Sept. 8	Apr. 10

IMPORTANT NOTE:- The fact that the temporary headquarters of a Federal supervisor have been closed does not always indicate that the deal has been completed. Some potatoes are still being inspected in Maine, and apples, potatoes and onions in western New York, by local men.

O. N. Harsha now assisting with inspections in Boston, Mass.

18c. DEMONSTRATION OF BRUISING OF CALIFORNIA PEAS.

The Washington office has received a splendid exhibit from K. R. Nutting, who was supervising inspections in the Hayward section of California. The exhibit consists of four boxes of peas in the pod, and shows very clearly that white spots on the pods may be caused simply by bruising and that these spots do not affect the quality of peas.

Box No. 1 contains peas which are not bruised, and these pods show no white spots at all.

Box No. 2 contains peas which were bruised slightly on one side only, by pressing on the pod with the eraser end of a pencil. Only the bruised side of the pods in this box show the white spots, the other side being in perfect condition.

Box No. 3 contains peas which were bruised on one side only, by striking together or bruised by hitting. These show irregular white spots on the bruised side only.

Box No. 4 contains peas which were put in a small wooden box and shaken. The pods were thus bruised by striking each other and the sides of the box, and demonstrate clearly that the white spots resulted from bruising.

The entire exhibit was prepared to illustrate the fact that these white spots do not necessarily result from insect injury, as claimed by several receivers of cars in eastern markets. The California inspection certificates showed that the peas in these cars were free from insect injury. The white spots on the pods had resulted purely from bruises, which had occurred either in picking or in packing the peas. A slight amount of bruising also occurs in all lots of peas, as the dropping a sack on the warehouse floor usually bruises a few pods slightly, and this in turn is followed by the white spots. Mr. Nutting's letter of April 15 adds this statement:-

"We have found that a slight bruise on the pod, which is sufficient to break the outer layer of skin, or epidermis, causes a drying-out process; which drying-out causes a white spot. It takes 3 or 4 hours, after the bruising occurs, for the white spot to appear, and after 12 hours the spot is as pronounced as it ever gets. We also found that, to all appearances, the bruising which is sufficient to cause a white spot does not necessarily affect the carrying qualities of the peas, but does affect the appearance to some extent."

W. F. Allewelt, in commenting on the matter, said: "Our reason for submitting this proof regarding bruising of peas is that, about a year ago, we had some certificates from receiving markets, reporting that the peas showed white spots, indicating insect injury. While it is true that occasional thrips cause some marking on peas, such marking is more like that caused by thrips on oranges or deciduous fruit than it is like these white spots, which are more commonly found on peas."

ROBERT BIER,
Supervising Inspector.

OFFICE NOTES:

T. R. Hall, who has been on the Boston inspection staff for a considerable time and who previously was located in Chicago and New York City, will be placed in charge of the market news work in St. Louis about June 1. It is planned to return G. D. Clark to field duty, operating temporary stations in shipping sections; he has been handling the news service at St. Louis since last May. Mr. Hall has been an inspector for two years.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

Simultaneously with the moving of our Chicago office to its new location this Saturday, Miss Agnes E. Paske, switchboard operator, leaves the service, after 5½ years' effective work. Miss Gertrude S. Lindegren, of the Chicago inspection office, resigns this week, and her place will be filled by Mrs. Amy P. Lewis.

Mr. Stillwell was at Jacksonville, Fla., yesterday, and will be at other Florida points this week, before proceeding to Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi.

Latest word from E. E. Conklin, Jr., indicates that he is conferring with supervising inspectors and others at South Texas points this week and the first part of next week. He expects to be at Phoenix, Arizona, on April 30 and May 1; at Coachella Valley (Calif.) points on May 3 and 4, reaching Sacramento by May 6.

Mr. Samson was in Yakima, Wash., most of this week, but will soon proceed to points in California and other States.

Mr. Robb met with apple growers and shippers at Marionville, Mo., on Tuesday of this week. Later, he visited the Kansas City office, and planned to be at the Wichita office of the Inspection Service on Thursday, the 22nd.

G. W. Winfrey, of the New Orleans office, went to Van Buren, Ark., on Monday, and is making arrangements for the inspection of strawberry shipments, which probably will start moving next week. F. S. Kinsey is temporarily in charge of the New Orleans office. About June 1, it is planned to reinstate Frank M. Lyle, of Texas A. & M. College, in order to have him look after the New Orleans work.

R. H. Lamb, who has been issuing market reports on citrus fruit at the Orlando field station since last November, will leave Orlando next week, and proceed to Wilmington, N. C., where he will conduct the news service on strawberries, lettuce, potatoes, string beans and cucumbers. It was decided just a few days ago to issue these reports from Wilmington instead of Raleigh this season. The first car of North Carolina berries is expected to roll next Monday, April 26.

Lettuce inspections are being made in the Wilmington section of North Carolina, and some inspections may soon be made of cabbage.

F. Earl Parsons is supervising inspections of spinach in the Norfolk section of Virginia. This work is being handled for the Southern Produce Company. Wm. E. Lewis returned from Norfolk on Monday of this week.

G. R. Warren stopped at the Washington office last Saturday, en route to Hastings, Fla., where he is supervising inspection work on potatoes.

Miss Marguerite O. Soost, formerly of the Veterans' Bureau, has been given the position in the St. Louis inspection office, recently vacated by Mrs. Elsie Roberts Pecher.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

After May 1, George E. Prince will be located at Aiken, S.C., and should be addressed in care of the State Division of Markets at Aiken. Mr. Prince will be actively in charge of the marketing work in South Carolina, under a cooperative agreement with this Bureau. He will give considerable attention to shipping-point inspection work in the State, probably handling first the potato inspection deal around Charleston. All of this week and next week, he is assisting with potato inspections at Hastings, Fla.

O. N. Harsha completes his supervision of the inspection service in western New York this week, and will proceed to Boston, to assist with the rush of work there on potatoes and other products. H. S. Duncan, State Inspector, will continue the service at western New York points until the potatoes, apples and onions are more completely moved. Mr. Duncan's local address is Room 415 Triangle Bldg., Rochester.

K. W. Schaible, of the inspection staff at Jacksonville, Fla., was sent to New York City this week to help with the work in that market temporarily. Mr. Schaible's appointment to the Federal staff wasannounced in the D. L. for March 19.

Edwin Smith sailed from England yesterday on the S. S. President Harding. He is due to arrive in Washington on Friday, April 30.

First cherry shipments of the season were reported yesterday from the Sacramento district of California.

W. L. Evans returned to the Washington office for several days last week, but has now gone back to New York City, where he and H. V. DeMott are assisting in a court case against a wool dealer, who handled part of the 1918 clip. The case was delayed by reason of illness of the Asst. U.S. Attorney.

K. R. Nutting, who has been in charge of shipping-point inspection work around Hayward, Calif., has now been transferred to Santa Maria, to handle the lettuce inspections in that territory. His mail address is: General Delivery, Santa Maria.

S. S. Rogers, Asst. Chief, Bureau of Fruit and Vegetable Standardization, at Sacramento, Calif., addressed a meeting of the Horticulture Roundtable, at the University Farm, Davis, on Tuesday evening, April 13. His talk was relative to the inspection service. Last night, Mr. Rogers addressed the graduating students in Horticulture at Berkeley, for the purpose of getting applicants for the next grape-inspection season. W. F. Allewelt and E. J. Powell also met last Tuesday with horticultural men at Davis, to discuss the inspection work with those who will graduate this spring.

W. F. Cox was delayed a day or two in reaching Crystal City, Texas, by the severe storms in the southern part of the State. Wires dated April 20 indicated that Mr. Cox was forced back to San Antonio by a cloudburst and 12-inch hail at Uvalde. The strip affected by the hail-storm is about seven miles long and one mile wide, but there are very few onions planted in that particular section. Apparently only light rain occurred in the Winter Garden district.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 7, NO. 18
April 30, 1926
(Contents Confidential)

1a. GOOD STRAWBERRY CROP EXPECTED IN OZARK REGION.

"The Ozark territory, along the lines of the St. Louis-San Francisco Railway Company in Missouri and Arkansas, will produce this year the largest and finest crop of strawberries ever grown in that region, according to an estimate made by the agricultural department of the road. A total of 2,510 cars of the fruit, valued at approximately $4,000,000 and picked from 15,805 acres, will constitute the crop. In 1925 about 1,590 cars of strawberries were shipped via Frisco lines from the Ozark district, and the car movement this year will show an increase of more than 60%. 'The 1925 crop sold for $2,500,000,' W. L. English, superviser of agriculture for the Frisco said: 'While it is impossible to know exactly what the market price will be this year, we feel fairly certain that the returns will approximate $4,000,000 to the growers.' The pilgrimage of an army of pickers into the territory is being provided for by the growers, and during the six-weeks picking period, buildings, water and various conveniences will be on hand for them. They are paid 3 cents a quart for picking berries, and nimble pickers, it is said, can gather from 100 to 200 quarts a day." (Manufacturers Record, Apr. 22)

2a. DIVISION LETTER APPRECIATED IN THE FIELD.

"For some time," wrote one of the men outside of Washington,-"I have been planning to write and thank you for forwarding the Division Letter to me each week. In my period of service, now exceeding five years, I have never missed having a copy sent to me, no matter where I have been. It was particularly gratifying to receive a copy while I was in training in Camp _____, at _____. I have made a great many friends in the Government service and, through your Letter each week, I read with a great deal of interest just what they are doing and of their whereabouts. I know of no other medium in the Division that has more possibilities than the Division Letter toward maintaining the 'esprit de corps' among the men in the field."

3a. ADDITIONAL REPORTS ON FOREIGN CROPS.

During the past week, the Foreign Marketing Section issued the following mimeographed reports:- F.S.:F-22, "Dried Fruit Industry in Persia." F.S. :A-51, "Notes on British Dominion Apples." F.S. :F-21, "Notes on Southern Hemisphere Fruit." F.S. :O-27, "Egyptian Onion Shipments."

4a. DAYLIGHT SAVING OBSERVED IN OTHER CITIES.

Last week's Division Letter, Par. 7a, mentioned that daylight saving hours are now being observed in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. So far as can be ascertained, New York, Boston, and Chicago also are observing these earlier hours during the spring and summer. Cincinnati, too, observes daylight saving.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. REPORTING "PRICES AND CONDITIONS UNCHANGED" IN MARKET WIRES.

Our policy on reporting unchanged prices and conditions in market wires is that the phrase," prices and conditions unchanged", shall not be used more than twice in succession. That is, if the same prices and conditions prevail for more than three days, they must be repeated in full in the wire of the fourth day. This is to insure that any error, typographical or otherwise, will be caught before it has appeared more than three times. On Monday or the day following a holiday, prices and conditions should always be given in full in the wires from market stations. Field station reports covering Saturday's business, which are relayed over the leased wires Monday morning, should always be given in full.

The phrase, "prices unchanged", means that originating States, containers, varieties, grades and prices are all absolutely unchanged from those of the preceding day. "Conditions unchanged" takes in not only demand, trading, market, price changes, and condition of the stock, but supplies when the supply statement is used. Salesmen on the market sometimes say there is "no change" to save themselves the time and bother of discussing the situation with the reporter, when further inquiry often will reveal changes in certain varieties and grades. Be positive that the market is absolutely unchanged before saying so on any day. Practically always some change will be found for perishables at least, and usually for semi-perishables.

If only one or two changes have taken place, it will be satisfactory to say, for example: "Friday's prices unchanged except (indicating the change)" or, if a new quotation is to be added to the old ones, which remain unchanged, state: "Friday's prices unchanged but add ----." Where a report is short, it often will be less trouble to give it in full, rather than make the changes suggested above.

It is obvious that, if even one price has been changed, the phrase "no change in prices" should not be used. It will be satisfactory in such cases to say "GOHUY except HABOH and --- (indicating the change in price)." Occasionally a reporter states "market slightly stronger" or "market slightly weaker", following with "prices unchanged." While such a condition is possible, it rarely will be correct to state "prices unchanged" on the next day.

2b. SPINACH AND CITRUS REPORTS DISCONTINUED.

Effective today, the daily market reports on Spinach, issued at the Washington office, and the market reports on Citrus Fruit, issued at Orlando, Fla., were discontinued for the present season.

3b. FIELD MEN SHOULD KEEP WASHINGTON INFORMED ON DEALS.

It is highly desirable that all opening and closing dates, published in the list of temporary field stations of the Market News Service in the weekly D. L., be as accurate and as current as it is possible to have them. Field men should examine regularly these opening and closing dates in the list and advise the Washington office of any changes. The man on the ground is in the best position to know about what time the reports on a particular product will be discontinued at his office. Information on this subject should be marked for attention of the Division Letter Editor.

4b. SUMMARY OF EAST TEXAS TOMATO DEAL.

E. D. Mallison, now connected with the Bureau of Plant Industry, is the author of the Summary of the Texas Tomato Deal, Season of 1925, which was distributed this week. The front cover is nicely illustrated with a picture of three fine tomatoes. The introduction emphasizes the important rank held by tomatoes among other vegetables. The carlot shipment statistics include figures for stations in the Lower Rio Grande Valley, as well as for East Texas.

5b. MISSISSIPPI TOMATO DEAL SUMMARIZED.

Summary of the Mississippi Tomato Deal, Season of 1925, by R. H. Shoemaker, was also released this week. The front of this report is decorated with an outline map of the State, showing the leading tomato-shipping points. An index facilitates the finding of the respective sections of the summary. Mr. Shoemaker stresses the unusual or surprising features of the 1925 Mississippi tomato season. Mention is made of the Federal-State inspections, and a section is devoted to the consideration of imports from Mexico. An important and rather unusual feature of this summary is a chapter, forecasting the possibilities of the 1926 season. Destinations on the basis of receiving-State totals are given in comparative form for three seasons.

6b. SUMMARY OF 1925 MISSOURI BERRY DEAL.

The Missouri Strawberry Deal, Season of 1925, is summarized by G. E. Prince in a report issued a few days ago. The front cover of this summary is illuminated with an outline map of the States of Missouri and Arkansas, showing the Ozark strawberry region and the White County district of Arkansas. Emphasis is placed on the high prices received last season and the wide distribution of the crop. The estimated value of the entire Ozark crop was at least $4,000,000. A section of the summary treats of the Federal-State inspection of berries. Freight, express and icing charges are tabulated on shipments from Monett, Mo., to 30 leading markets.

7b. REVIEW OF 1925-26 COLORADO POTATO SEASON.

On April 23, John D. Snow, of the Denver office, issued a one-page review of the Colorado potato season, just closing. He points out that Colorado had a heavier potato crop in 1925 than in 1924, even though the national production was considerably shorter than usual. Returns to growers ranged from $1.30 to $4.75 per 100 pounds, and after October 26 the price never fell below $2.25 for U.S. No.1 stock. Shipments of Colorado potatoes went to 31 States. The season was marked by many ups and downs, but was very successful, in general. The crop was worth many millions of dollars to growers. The average of most estimates indicated about 500 cars remaining to be shipped after April 22. About 14,360 cars had moved to that date. Copies of this brief review can be had from the Denver office on request.

B. C. BORNE,
Marketing Specialist.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

Stations	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably will close
ROCHESTER, N. Y.** 419 Triangle Bldg.	837	H. S. Duncan	Apples	Sept. 4	May 15
		A. L. Thomas	Pears*	Sept. 4	Oct. 31*
			Cabbage*	Sept. 4	Mar. 12*
			Onions	Sept. 14	May 1
			Peaches*	Sept. 14	Oct. 3*
			Celery*	Sept. 16	Jan. 23*
			Potatoes	Sept. 16	May 15
			Grapes*	Sept. 21	Oct. 31*
			Carrots	Sept. 23	May 1
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. 419 Federal Bldg. MAIL: P.O. Box 86	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Apples*	Oct. 7	Nov. 24*
			Potatoes	Oct. 7	June 1
			Onions*	Oct. 7	Mar. 20*
BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS** Chamber of Commerce	931	J. D. Evers	Cabbage	Feb. 1	May 1
			Beets & Carrots	Feb. 1	May 15
			Potatoes	Mar. 29	May 15
			Stg.Beans	Apr. 1	May 15
			Tomatoes	Apr. 27	May 25
HAMMOND, LA. P. O. Bldg.	802	W. H. Mosier	Berries	Mar. 29	May 15
LAREDO, TEXAS** Chamber of Commerce	801	A. E. Prugh	Onions	Apr. 5	May 8
MOBILE, ALA.** Custom House	924	H. E. Rutland	Cabbage	Apr. 19	May 22
			Potatoes	May 10	June 12
HASTINGS, FLA.** Bowles Bldg.	851	R. L. Sutton	Potatoes	Apr. 22	May 22
CRYSTAL CITY, TEXAS** Depot	867	W. F. Cox	Onions	Apr. 22	May 20
WILMINGTON, N. C.** Custom House	805	R. H. Lamb	Berries	Apr. 30	June 5
			Lettuce	May 10	June 5
			Potatoes	June 1	June 30
			Stg.Beans	June 10	June 30
			Cucumbers	June 15	July 3
The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:					
JUDSONIA, ARK.	856	W. G. Jensen	Berries	May 10	May 29
EL CENTRO, CALIF.	808	C. E. Schultz	Cants.	May 10	July 3
MONETT, MO.	857	Unassigned	Berries	May 14	June 5
CHARLESTON, S. C.	858	Unassigned	Potatoes	May 17	June 10
The following stations closed on date indicated:					
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	Mrs. L. B. Gerry	Apples	Aug. 24	Apr. 30
ORLANDO, FLA.** 20 Phillips Bldg.	920	R. H. Lamb	Citrus Fruit	Nov. 2	Apr. 30

** State cooperating. | C. E. Schultz in Los Angeles office. | *Reports discontinued.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. SACRAMENTO CONFERENCE OF SUPERVISING INSPECTORS.

Wednesday and Thursday, May 5 and 6, are the dates scheduled for holding the standardization and inspection conference at Sacramento, Calif. In addition to local inspectors, some State officials and others, the following men will be in attendance at this conference:-

F. G. Robb)of Washington office	F. E. Bailey, Spokane, Wash.
H. W. Samson)	C. H. Behnke, Wenatchee, Wash.
W. F. Allewelt, California	L. G. Schultz, Boise, Idaho.
E. E. Conklin, Jr., California	E. F. McKune, Denver, Colo.

2c. UNUSUAL POTATO SITUATION IN THE STATE OF IDAHO.

Writing from Boise, Idaho, on April 23, L. G. Schultz sent the following very interesting report on potatoes:-

"I have just returned from a trip over the potato sections in the southeastern part of the State and found the movement practically at a standstill. There are approximately 750 or 800 cars remaining in the State for commercial shipment, and they likely will drag out until the middle of May or even later, depending upon the market to a great extent. The majority of the growers, who are still holding potatoes, have given up the idea of five-dollar spuds and, just as soon as the market takes an upward turn, they will roll what is left.

"The total movement for the State, which will be over 17,000 cars, is considerably in excess of the official estimate, due to a large extent to the shipment of much low-grade stock, as well as to many growers selling their seed stocks and depending upon salvaging their seed out of their culls. This is to be regretted, as it will mean a lowering of the quality of next season's crop and grief to the Inspection Service.

A STARTLING DISCOVERY.

"While in the Teton Basin district, which is close to the Wyoming State line and the famous Jackson Hole country, an interesting feature came to my attention: The growing season in this section is rather short, and last fall several of the growers had not finished digging when a freeze and heavy snow came, causing harvesting operations to be suspended. At the time of my visit last week, they were just starting to dig these potatoes and, strange as it may seem, approximately 75% of the stock was perfectly sound. They expect to harvest better than 200 sacks of No. 1 stock to the acre, from a total of about 40 acres. I have never heard of this being done in any other section and, had I not seen it myself, I would have been inclined to doubt the truth of the story.

"With the potato movement about over, the next deal to open up will be the lettuce at Lewiston, which will come on about the 20th of May or a little later, depending upon the weather. The acreage will be greatly reduced from that of last season, but, with normal growing conditions, the yield should be much greater than last spring, when the hot weather practically ruined the entire crop. New potatoes will start from the Lewiston section about June 10 and, from present indications, there will be a heavy increase in the plantings."

3c. BRANDS AND GRADES OF FLORIDA CITRUS FRUIT.

A few days ago, each inspector was sent a copy of a 9-page list, showing the brands used by members of the Florida Fruitman's Club in shipments of citrus. Following each brand name is the grade under which that brand is packed, together with the name of shipper and the shipping point in Florida.

The primary purpose of this list is to aid inspectors, who may be requested to examine Florida citrus, in determining just what grade the brand represents. Inspection should be made on basis of U.S. grades, unless otherwise specified.

If any inspector failed to receive a copy of this list of brands and grades, he should notify the Washington office at once.

4c. INSPECTOR GOES 160 MILES TO EXAMINE CAR OF POTATOES.

E. F. McKune, Federal-State Supervisor at Denver, submitted the following report of an unusual inspection made in Colorado:-

"J. R. Sheely, Inspector in Charge of the San Luis Valley District, recently was called upon to make an inspection under unusual conditions. Mr. Sheely traveled from Monte Vista to Durango, a distance of approximately 160 miles, to make an inspection on one car of potatoes. It took about three days of Mr. Sheely's time, and the expenses of the trip and the fee cost the shipper $30.01. The shipper advised that he considered the trip well worth the cost, for the potatoes had been bought by letter on the basis of U.S. No.1. Mr. Sheely found the lot unclassified on account of wet rot and other serious defects."

5c. MORE NEWS ABOUT TEXAS ONIONS.

Writing from Laredo, Texas, on April 21, M. C. Gregory advised: "I have been here three weeks and the weather, as a whole, has been very unfavorable for maturing the onion crop. We have had about two days of sunshine per week, and most of the time it has been unseasonably cool. Onions are maturing slowly, and growers, in many instances, have stopped harvesting, except on the early plantings. If a few warm days occur, the tonnage and quality both will be better than was expected two weeks ago. But, with a hard rain in the Upper Counties yesterday, a good shower here, and a forecast of continued cloudy weather tomorrow, prospects are not so good."

6c. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR APRIL 24:

Page 261 - Onion Market Reports at Crystal City, Texas.
- Special paragraphs on potatoes in the weekly review.
262 - Louisiana Strawberries Slow in Starting - by W. H. Mosier.
272 - Onion Growing Is an Old Industry in Spain.
- Sicilian Verdelli Lemon Prospects Favorable.
- Australian Dried Fruit Crop Has Good Prospects.

6½c. APPEAL INSPECTION MAILING LIST REVISED.

Enclosed with this D.L., each inspector will receive a copy of the revised (May 1) Appeal Inspection Mailing List. This shows the States with which cooperative agreements have been effected, the products inspected in these States, and the Federal and State representatives in immediate charge. Please observe the instructions at the top of the list.

The next six items are from California Inspectors' Notes, dated April 23:

7c. CHERRIES MOVING FROM NORTHERN CALIFORNIA.

Cherry shipments are gaining considerable volume in the California sections, according to L. A. Brown, of the California Fruit Exchange. Guignes, Chapmans and Burbanks are the principal varieties now being harvested. Early shipments have been bringing $3.00 to $5.00 a box in the East, the price probably having been reduced on account of the medicore quality of the first shipments, which were packed shortly after the big rain. This storm ruined many of the earlier cherries, thus holding back the earliest districts and causing all of the producing sections to come in at about the same time. The crop is not heavy this year, and it has been recently noted that a number of cherries are dropping from the trees, reducing the crop in many sections as much as 25%.

W. H. Tuggle, recently appointed Supervising Inspector, has been traveling in the various canning districts, organizing the work of inspection under the Canned Fruit Standardization Act. The new law will be put in full operation in time to cover the packing of cherries, which will start in about two weeks. "The condition of the crop in general should insure a large pack," Mr. Tuggle says. "Though prices have not been definitely established, the trade is now talking 7½¢ to 10¢."

8c. SAN DIEGO POTATOES SUFFER FROM DISEASE.

"Practically all the potato fields in the Oceanside and Carlsbad sections of San Diego County are affected with a disease, which has stunted the plants and appears to be leafroll," said J. E. Currey, just returned from a week's trip in that section. "The yield in these fields is reduced 30% to 50% below normal and, though this condition has been found to some extent other years, this is the most disastrous attack yet experienced. Aerial tubers are a characteristic of the disease, similar to those produced by rhizoctonia. An examination of the underground portions of the vines, however, fails to reveal the usual symptoms of rhizoctonia.

"Leafroll is a virus disease which is carried over in the potato seed and is also spread by aphis. The leaves of the plants roll upwards and become harsh, leathery and brittle. Plants become stunted and the yield often is cut from 50% to 75%. Many of the local growers feel that the disease has arisen from unusual growing conditions. As it is prevalent under a wide variety of irrigation and soil conditions, however, this explanation does not seem sufficient. An epidemic of aphis, which occurred some weeks ago, also strengthens the belief that the disease is leafroll, since such an infestation might easily have served to spread the disease from a few infected vines to the large number of plants now affected. Considerable net necrosis has been found in the tubers, which also is a characteristic of leafroll."

Mr. Currey made a number of selections of seed from the infected plants, which will be planted later. If the disease is carried over in the potatoes, it will establish proof that the disease is true leafroll, he says.

"The potatoes are mostly of the British Queen variety. It seems impossible to get any accurate estimates of the present acreage in the district. Jack Eakins, of the Crop Estimates office, says about 3,000 acres were planted, of which about 50% have been plowed under. Stock is now being harvested, mainly for local markets."

9c. HAYWARD PEAS BETTER IN QUALITY.

Mr. Wahlberg reports 16 cars of peas inspected last week (April 12-17) in the Hayward district. Some of the stock was damaged by the big rains several weeks ago, but, since this has been cleaned up, the quality of peas in the district has become very good. With the cleaning up of the small hillside peas and the efforts of the standardization inspectors, there has been considerable improvement in the pack, and very little deception or topping has been noted lately. The price, which hovered around 10¢ to 12¢ for some time, has now come down to a more normal plane of 5¢ to 7¢.

10c. SAN DIEGO SHIPPERS PLEASED.

Elwood Collins writes from San Diego that prospects appear to be bright for the next season's cauliflower and celery deal. J. O. Sieverling, of the J.O.S. Ranches, has expressed his satisfaction with the present inspection and has asserted that he will not consider shipping without certification any of the 250 cars he expects next season. A certificate this season saved him $200 on one claim alone, he says. Maydole Smith intends to use the service for the 150 to 200 cars he will ship next season.

Cauliflower should wind up by May 15, thus closing the deal until grapes and tomatoes come on in the fall. "The scarcity of cauliflower has brought a horde of cash buyers to San Diego within the last week," says Elwood.

11c. SALINAS AND SANTA MARIA LETTUCE POOR.

Earl Wilson reports 12 cars inspected in Salinas during the week ended April 17 and includes the following notation: "Quality generally poor. Many soft heads and some tip-burn. Inspection will increase as quality gets better and price drops. At present getting $2.50 to $3.00 f.o.b. for most any kind of lettuce. No Number 1's yet."

"Santa Maria lettuce is very poor at present", writes K. R. Nutting. "Most of the stock is either loose and leafy, or full of tip-burn. Ralph Hooper was here last week and condemned two cars -- one for loose and soft heads and another for slime." Mr. Nutting is inspecting a few cars of carrots and cauliflower, and hopes lettuce inspection will pick up as the new fields of better stuff come on.

12c. SOME FROZEN ORANGES NOTED.

Several lots of oranges from Porterville have been damaged by frost, according to H. G. Whitney, writing from his station in Dinuba. The orange shippers there have given him every cooperation, he says, making the deal a pleasant one. Grape growers there favor the proposed changes in the U.S. grades, and this season's deal promises to be a big one in that district.

13c. INDICATE WHETHER DAYLIGHT-SAVING TIME ON CERTIFICATES.

The instructions of former years are repeated here, as a reminder to all offices in cities where daylight-saving time is observed: The abbreviation "D.S." should be inserted after the hour on all certificates issued from offices operating on daylight-saving time.

TEMPORARY HEADQUARTERS OF EASTERN AND SOUTHERN SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION DEALS

State	Federal Supervisor	Products	Approx. date of Opening	Approx. date of Closing
FLORIDA:	O. G. Strauss, Box 188, Orlando, Fla.	Citrus Fruit	Oct. 1	May 25
	J. C. Townsend, Jr., Box 495, Sanford, Fla.	Celery Cabbage	Jan. 1 Mar. 5	May 15 May 15
	G. R. Warren, Hastings, Fla.	Potatoes	Apr. 20	June 1
TEXAS:	C. D. Shirley, Harlingen, Texas	Vegetables	Jan. 1	May 25
	M. C. Gregory, Chamber of Commerce, Laredo, Texas	Onions	Apr. 5	May 15
	A. T. Longino, Crystal City, Texas	Onions	Apr. 10	May 20
ARKANSAS:	G. W. Winfrey, Van Buren, Ark.	Berries	May 3	June 5
The following stations probably will open about dates indicated:				
TENNESSEE:	R. C. Lindstrom, Jackson, Tenn. (W)	Berries	May 10	May 29
	J. A. Marks, Chattanooga, Tenn. (E)	Berries	May 10	May 29
MISSOURI:	N. D. Sanborn, Monett, Mo.	Berries	May 10	June 5
GEORGIA:	O. G. Strauss, Macon, Ga.	Peaches	June 1	July 25

NOTE: Supervisors are asked to send corrections of dates in the above columns.

14c. SPECIMENS OF PEANUTS DISTRIBUTED TO INSPECTION OFFICES.

Sample bottles, one containing specimens of peanuts with slight yellow pits not excluded in U. S. No. 2, and another containing the general run of damaged stock in U. S. No. 2 grade, have been mailed this week to all offices equipped to make peanut inspections.

15c. GOOD RECORD ON INDIANA ONION INSPECTIONS.

The following information was received from J. E. Dickerson, of the Cincinnati office, under date of April 21. Mr. Dickerson supervised the shipping-point inspection work on onions in Indiana and Ohio:-

"The last car of Indiana onions for this season was inspected on April 2. About 1,630 cars were inspected during the shipping season, an increase of approximately 270% over the 1924-1925 season, and 400% over the 1923-1924 season.

"Inspections were made at 92 points for 25 different shippers, as all but two of the leading shippers took inspection on at least part of their stock this year.

"Of the total cars inspected, 11% graded U. S. No. 1, 1-1/4 inch minimum; 5% were entirely or partially off grade on account of decay, 5% on account of freezing injury, and 7% on account of a combination of decay and blemishes or a combination of various blemishes. In many instances, freezing injury also was one of the contributing causes which threw these cars out of grade."

16c. NORTHWEST RECOMMENDS GRADES FOR SWEET CHERRIES.

The following interesting letter was received from C. H. Behnke, Supervising Inspector, at Wenatchee, Wash. It was written on April 22:-

"In connection with Mr. Samson's trip to the Northwest and his visit to Wenatchee, a meeting of cherry growers and shippers was arranged here in Wenatchee. The meeting was held last Thursday, April 15, and was well attended by growers and shippers, about 40 or 50 persons being present.

"Previous to the meeting, the question of formulating standard grades for fresh cherries had been discussed with growers and shippers of this district and a considerable interest on their part was apparent. With suggestions and information on the question received here and there, the District Horticultural Inspector and myself formulated these into some recommendations for grades. We mimeographed these and distributed them among those present at the meeting. This gave them a basis on which to begin and, after some good discussions on various points in the grade, by both growers and shippers present, our suggestions, with Mr. Samson's valuable assistance, were revised to read according to the copy of the specifications I am enclosing. These recommendations will be presented for consideration and State adoption at the State Grade and Pack Conference, to be held at Yakima tomorrow and Saturday, April 23 and 24. This is the only cherry-shipping district in the Northwest, to my knowledge, that has formally recommended any certain, standard specifications for fresh cherries.

"Mr. Samson addressed the weekly, noon luncheon meeting of the Wenatchee Traffic Association on Friday, April 16, on the question of spray residue poisoning. Mr. Wagner of G. M. H. Wagner & Sons and Mr. J. S. Crutchfield also spoke on the same subject."

ROBERT BIER,
Supervising Inspector.

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Robb is scheduled to arrive at Sacramento, Calif., on Sunday, May 2. He was at Denver and Grand Junction, Colo., and at Salt Lake City, Utah, this week. Mr. Samson left Corvallis, Oregon, on Wednesday night, and doubtless has arrived in Sacramento by today.

Mr. Stillwell was in Atlanta the early part of this week. He expected to reach Montgomery, Ala., today for a conference with State officials, and will be at Mobile from Saturday until Monday. From Mobile, Mr. Stillwell goes to New Orleans and to Mississippi points.

B. E. Shaffer arrived at Wauchula, Fla., yesterday afternoon, where he is looking into the grading and packing of cucumbers and other products.

C. H. Behnke, of the Wenatchee, Wash., office, will go to Sacramento, Calif., next week for the conference of supervising inspectors, and at the close of the conference will proceed to Chicago, where he will assist with local inspection work.

In order to start a shipping-point inspection deal on peas, beans and cucumbers at Lake City, S. C., it was necessary for G. E. Prince to leave Florida sooner than expected. He proceeded to Lake City the middle of this week, and after spending a few days there, getting the work lined up, will be at his headquarters, Aiken, S. C. Because Mr. Prince is permanently located in South Carolina, the various shipping-point deals in that State will not be listed among the temporary offices, such as those published on Page 251 of this D. L.

H. W. Schneck, who has been assisting with the work at Atlanta, went to Hastings, Fla., where he will help with inspections of potatoes.

J. A. Marks probably will leave New York City early next week, and proceed to Chattanooga, Tenn., to supervise the shipping-point inspection of strawberries. He plans to stop at Cincinnati a day or two, for conference with inspectors in that market.

R. C. Lindstrom, of the Chicago inspection staff, is scheduled to supervise the strawberry inspection work in western Tennessee, with headquarters at Jackson, as soon as that deal opens. The berry crop in the Middle West has been delayed by cool weather, but Mr. Lindstrom may leave Chicago by the end of next week.

N. D. Sanborn, of the Denver office, goes to Monett, Mo., within the next week or ten days, to supervise strawberry inspections in that section. It will be remembered that Mr. Sanborn handled this deal last season.

F. A. Powell, whose headquarters have been at San Francisco, will be in charge of potato inspections in the Shafter district of California, beginning about May 20.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

An inspection deal on peas has been started in the Crystal Springs district of Mississippi, under the direction of C. R. Newton, who is the supervising inspector for Louisiana. Pea shipments began on Tuesday of this week in car-lots. Mr. Newton is looking after this work only until F. S. Kinsey is able to leave New Orlenas and take over the Mississippi deal.

Market reports on apples will be discontinued at the Spokane office today. The office, of course, will not close, as it is conducted on a year-round basis, with Mrs. L. B. Gerry in charge during the spring and summer.

C. E. Schultz has been taking some of his annual leave, in California, preparatory to going from Los Angeles to El Centro, where he again will conduct news service on cantaloupes. The El Centro field station will open probably about May 10.

C. J. Hansen advises that Prof. R. L. Adams, Head of the Division of Farm Management, University of California, College of Agriculture, has been appointed by G. H. Hecke as the Chief of the State Division of Markets. Mr. Adams will have his office in Room 2, Ferry Bldg., San Francisco, and will devote much of his time to the fostering of cooperative organizations among growers in the State of California.

The May issue of The Country Gentleman contains an article by E. V. Wilcox on "Apples and Arsenic." Much of the information on the subject was obtained from L. S. Tenny, Asst. Chief of this Bureau; Dr. P. B. Dunbar, Asst. Chief of the Bureau of Chemistry, and Dr. A. L. Quaintance, Associate Chief of the Bureau of Entomology.

Congratulations are being extended to the Fruit and Vegetable ladies, whose team won on Wednesday the championship of the women's bowling contest, conducted by various divisional teams of this Bureau. The quintet winning the silver loving cup this season consisted of Miss Grace Robinson (captain), Miss Midlred Moore, Mrs. Cecile Linn, Mrs. Nellie Lynham, all of the F.& V. Division, and Mrs. Theresa Adams, of the Stenographic Pool.

E. F. McKune, of the Denver office, advises that his residence address has been changed to 13th and Wadsworth Sts., Edgewater, Colo., a suburb about five miles from the office. His home telephone number is Lakewood 279. Please make this correction on the Inspectors' Address List, dated Jan. 15, 1926.

C. R. Newton's residence address is 2145 Orleander St., Baton Rouge, La., and his telephone number is 3293-J. His present official mail address was published among Office Notes in the D.L. for Feb. 12. It is P.O. Box 608, Baton Rouge.

Bureau of Agricultural Economics,
Fruit and Vegetable Division.

April 30, 1926

SPECIAL MEMORANDUM

SURVEY OF AVAILABLE OFFICE SPACE.

Our attention has been called to P.B.A. Circular No. 26 on this subject, dated March 23, 1926 and published on page 4 of The Official Record of April 14. Mr. Kitchen, the Business Manager of this Bureau, has requested that, in connection with requests for renewals of leases or for new leases during the approaching fiscal year, particular attention be given to the reasonableness of the rent recommended and the suitability of the space selected. He has suggested that it be ascertained whether building conditions have reached the point in certain cities where a lower rental might be granted even though our lease provides for a renewal, which is merely optional on our part. Cooperation with the Area Coordinator or the Federal Business Association, if any in your City, is recommended. Please give this matter your early attention. If you find that a more economical arrangement can be made for suitable accommodations for our work, advise the Washington office not later than May 15.

W. L. EVANS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 7, NO. 19
May 7, 1926.
(Contents Confidential)

1a. BULLETIN ON ORANGES ISSUED BY B. OF R. E.

Bulletin No. 10, on "Oranges," was issued several months ago by the Bureau of Railway Economics, Transportation Bldg., Washington, D. C. The bulletin deals with the results of a study of the effect of freight rates on prices paid for oranges. Carload shipments are tabulated by States and by months for a period of seven years. A graph shows the relation between the monthly movement from Florida and that from California. A series of "pie" charts shows the unloads of oranges in 32 markets on the basis of originating States, and another set of bar charts illustrates the monthly unloads in 12 important markets. Prices paid to Florida growers are tabulated for the 1924-25 season on the basis of shipping county, variety and grade. Auction prices also are given in New York, Philadelphia and Chicago, and some attention is given to retail prices in those cities. Freight rates to the principal markets are visualized by means of a map of the United States.

2a. "THE SMALL FRUITS OF NEW YORK."

Above is the title of a very large volume, recently published by the New York Agricultural Experiment Station, at Geneva. The book contains more than 600 pages and a wealth of beautifully-colored pictures of many varieties of raspberries, blackberries, dewberries, currants, gooseberries, and strawberries. This is a companion volume to the six previously published on New York apples, plums, peaches, cherries, grapes and pears. It is a valuable contribution to horticultural literature. A copy of the new volume is in the Library of this Bureau.

3a. AUSTRALIAN APPLES BIDDING FOR BRITISH MARKETS.

An Associated Press dispatch from London May 2 says: "The 'apple-a-day' maxim is to be tried out on the members of the Australian cricket team during their stay in England. The Australian authorities here have arranged for a daily supply of apples for the cricketers, who have eaten at least one every day aboard ship coming over. An Australian apple armada is on the high seas bound for England. Forty great steamers, loaded with choice fruit from the Antipodes make up the formidable fleet, which in a few weeks will lay down a barrage of apples on England. The overseas Dominion has joined with Government officials in a concentrated cooperative movement to create a great new market for fresh fruit in the United Kingdom. With American and Canadian apples somewhat in disfavor because some of them are said to have arrived in England with arsenic spray still on them, the Australians have decided that now is the time to bid strongly for the trade of the mother country. An attempt will be made to educate the public to ask for Australian fruit."

4a. ASPARAGUS, SWEET POTATOES AND LETTUCE IN NORTHWEST.

Interesting information concerning conditions in the Pacific Northwest, particularly the State of Washington, is contained in this letter of April 29, from F. E. Bailey, of the Spokane office:-

"You may be interested in a few general observations on conditions in the Northwest. Right now, during the last of April, we are experiencing weather such as we usually expect during the last part of May. The wheat in eastern Washington is easily a month ahead of normal in its development. A few frosty nights have done some local damage to strawberries, apricots and some other early fruits, along with some of the earlier vegetables, but, on the whole, this damage is comparatively slight. Present indications are for a full crop of most tree and bush fruits in practically all districts of the Northwest. If the present warm weather continues, crops which are not under irrigation will be in need of rain within the next ten days or two weeks.

"The Kennewick district is having a successful year with its asparagus. On April 21, Mr. Lee Lamson, manager of the Three Rivers Growers Association, which handles the bulk of the asparagus tonnage, told me that his association had shipped 22 cars to eastern markets, mostly to Chicago, Cleveland, and Buffalo, and that $1.45 f.o.b. for the 12-pound pyramid was the minimum price received, most of the 'grass' bringing $1.60 to $1.75. This 'grass,' which is shipped under the Evergreen Brand, is all packed unbunched. The association endeavors to live up to its rule, restricting the amount of white on the stock to 1-1/2 inches or less. This 'grass' is all grown in small areas; the usual daily deliveries from the individual growers run from 5 to 20 crates. Our shipping-point inspector, working with the association inspector, opens and inspects one or more crates from each grower's lot delivered during the day. All carloads carry a cooperative Federal-State shipping-point certificate and grade U. S. No. 1. The Three Rivers Association also is handling the shipments from Prosser, Grandview, and Sunnyside, farther up the Yakima Valley. Many of the cars are partly loaded at one of the upper valley points, and pulled to Kennewick, where the load is completed. The second-grade stock is marketed mostly in Seattle, Spokane and other northwestern cities.

"Growers at Kennewick, Richland, Prosser, White Bluffs, and Hanford, in Benton County, and at Pasco, in Franklin County, are reported to be making extensive plantings of sweet potatoes; that is, sufficiently extensive to supply the Pacific Northwest and perhaps have some stock to ship into the States east of the Rocky Mountains. The success of some growers in producing this crop during the past two years has caused many others to go in to the growing of it. The Big Stem Jersey is the variety most generally recommended.

"Latest reports are that head-lettuce shipments from the Puget Sound district will start about May 5. There will be an increased acreage of lettuce at many points along Puget Sound. Some new districts are reported around Mount Vernon, in Skagit County, and at points around Bellingham, in Whatcom County, the latter counties being on the Canadian border. It is also reported that there will be from 100 to 150 acres planted in Clallam County, at Dungeness and Sequim. These points are on the Strait of Juan de Fuca, which connects Puget Sound with the ocean, and some persons who have had experience growing head lettuce in California and other localities believe that the mild summer climate of this locality will produce lettuce with a minimum amount of tip-burn, which causes considerable loss in some fields on the east side of the Sound. Dungeness and Sequim are served by a branch of the C.M. & St.P. Ry.

Cars loaded on this branch are lightered from Port Townsend to the main line at Seattle. The Seattle rate applies to eastern shipments, loaded on this branch."

5a. SPECIAL SUMMARY OF 1925 UNLOADS IN 36 CITIES.

On page 130 of the April Supplement to "Crops and Markets" will be found a special statistical summary of the 1925 unloads of 15 fruits and vegetables in 36 markets. This was compiled by Miss Watt, and will be useful in many ways. Market stations particularly will be interested in these figures on a comparative basis.

6a. SURVEY OF AVAILABLE OFFICE SPACE.

With last week's Division Letter, copy of a special memorandum on the above subject was sent to all men in charge of branch offices. Replies should be in Mr. Evans' hands, here in the Washington office, by May 15.

7a. PEACH PROSPECTS IN ARKANSAS.

Below is a summary of the information on peaches, received under date of April 27 from Charles S. Bouton, Agricultural Statistician at Little Rock:-

"Extreme northwestern Arkansas expects only 10% of a peach crop, sufficient for home use. In Crawford and Franklin counties there will be very small crops, not over 10%, possibly 20 to 25 cars. Stations in Johnson County expect the following output: Coal Hill 32 cars, Cabin Creek 80, Clarksville 28, Knoxville 15, making a total of 155 cars from that county. From Yell, Logan, Pope and Conway counties, we may get another 75 or 100 cars. In other words, 260 cars is about the present outlook from the Arkansas Valley west of Little Rock. The Howard and Pike County districts, around Nashville and Highland, expect full crops. Many orchards are coming in, and the present outlook is from 1,800 to 2,000 cars. Other points in Pike County,- Murfreesboro, Amity, Rosboro and Pike City, - expect 100 cars, or the same as last year. In Sevier County, Horatio expects 75, DeQueen 40 and Lockesburg 10 cars. The total outlook is slightly better than last season, but less than two years ago; in other words, about 2,500 cars."

8a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR MAY 1:

Page 277 - Special paragraphs on cantaloupes in the weekly review.
278 - Light Shipments from Mobile Cabbage Section, - by H. E. Rutland.
279 - South Texas Potato Movement Active, - by J. D. Evers.
284 - Apple growers in Nova Scotia covet British market. (filler)
288 - Onion Seed Harvest in Canary Islands Suffers Loss.
- Weather Favorable in Foreign Prune Districts.
- New Zealand Apple Exports Heavy.

FIRST CAR OF IMPERIAL VALLEY CANTALOUPES arrived in Pittsburgh this morning. Demand was reported moderate. Flats were jobbing at $4.50, ponys at $10, standards at $12, and jumbos at $14.

9a. IN APRIL SUPPLEMENT TO "CROPS AND MARKETS."

Page 105 - Time of Issuance and Scope of May Crop Reports.
106 - Intention to Plant Potatoes in Early States.
- Condition of Certain Crops in Florida and California.
109 - Shipments of Irish potatoes from Arkansas. (filler)
- Cantaloupe acreage in Nevada. (filler)
- Price and Condition of Truck Crops in Various States,- cabbage, lettuce, potatoes, strawberries, tomatoes, etc.
110 - Commercial Acreage in respective States, of early snap beans, early cucumbers, intermediate cabbage, lettuce and onions, second-early potatoes and tomatoes, also cantaloupes.
- Acreage and Production in respective States, of second-early cabbage, spring lettuce, early green peas and strawberries.
111 - Bean Production by Varieties in Leading States, 1924 and 1925.
- Commercial cabbage crop in Mississippi. (filler)
- Horseradish production in Missouri and Illinois. (filler)
114 - Production of Bermuda and Creole Onions, by States.
- April 1 Condition Report on apples, peaches, early potatoes, in the southern States.
115 - Production in the Five Leading States, of peanuts, apples, peaches, pears, potatoes, sweet potatoes.
116 - Damage to Truck Crops by Freeze of March 14 and the Cold, Wet Season.
- Tomato acreage in South Carolina. (filler)
- Increased acreage of Louisiana truck crops. (filler)
117 - Lettuce acreage in South Carolina. (filler)
121 - Pea crop damaged in North Carolina. (filler)
125 - Snap-bean acreage in Lower Rio Grande Valley. (filler)
126 - April 1 Cold Storage Holdings of apples, pears and frozen and preserved fruits.
- Cantaloupe acreage in Lower Rio Grande Valley. (filler)
127 - Cold Storage Holdings on First of Each Month during 1925, of apples, pears, onions, and frozen and preserved fruits.
- Recent Agricultural Publications.
- Carrot acreage in Mississippi. (filler)
128 - Carload Shipments of Fruits and Vegetables during March, by States.
129 - Carload Shipments of Citrus Fruits during March, by States.
- Number of Orange, Grapefruit, and Lemon Trees of Bearing Age, by States, for Various Periods.
- Acreage of Bermuda onions in Missouri. (filler)
130 - Big Cities Took Heavy Supplies. (a summary of 1925 unloads of fruits and vegetables in 36 markets, - by Miss Watt)
131 - Production of Certified Seed Potatoes by Varieties and States.
- Strawberry Situation in Arkansas.
132 - Early potato acreage in Alabama. (filler)

→ HIDDEN IN THE MIDST of one of the articles in this Division Letter may be the very information which will be most helpful to you. That man runs the risk of missing something of real value, who fails to read ALL of the Letter, regularly.

10a. ASSIST INDIAN AGENCIES TO SECURE BIDS.

The Office of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs informs us that many of the Indian agencies have trouble in securing competitive bids on the potatoes which they have occasion to buy. Some agencies buy in small quantities, perhaps only a few thousand pounds, - others buy in carload quantities, some of them several cars per year. Owing to the fact that the Government has reduced rates on land-grant railroads, the freight rates are not at all the same as those which must be paid by other shippers. Therefore, the Government sometimes can buy at long distances from the point of consumption and save money, when it would be impossible for any other purchaser to do so.

The Office of Indian Affairs has been furnished this week with a list of all our permanent Market News and Inspection offices, and the addresses of some of the joint State and Federal employees, who should be able to assist in securing bids. These bids must be made on the proposal forms furnished by the Indian agencies to which the supplies are to be shipped. Federal or joint State-Federal certificates issued at shipping point will be accepted as final by the Indian agencies, so that bidders who secure shipping-point certificates need have no fear of rejections.

Under the circumstances, it is felt that the agencies should get the benefit of the lowest prices and probably the benefit of carlot prices on l.c.l. quantities, inasmuch as the bidder will be required to do nothing more than deliver the specified number of pounds sacked at the railroad station.

It is hoped that all of our men to whom the Indian agencies send proposals will take an interest in bringing the matter to the attention of dealers. Market News men in heavy shipping territory should carry an item on the daily bulletin, when bids for carload quantities are desired.

WELLS A. SHERMAN,
Specialist in Charge,
Fruit and Vegetable Division.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. ONION SITUATION IN SOUTH TEXAS.

A wire from J. A. Hunter, of the San Antonio office, yesterday gave the information that the recent rainy weather probably will result in water-logged onions in the Laredo district, as the crop there was fully matured and in poor condition to receive such excessive moisture. A possible strengthening of the markets may offset this to some extent and may prolong the carlot movement beyond May 15. The local trade at San Antonio, however, seems to think that the Laredo deal will be pretty near its end by the 15th and that more attention will be given the Winter Garden section, where a commercial-pack will be best that can be loaded.

2b. POTATO SITUATION IN LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY.

A letter of April 26, from J. D. Evers, at Brownsville, Texas, contained the following report on potatoes:-

"Latest reports indicate that close to 100 acres of potatoes are covered with water, owing to overflow of the Rio Grande River. In spite of warnings, which were issued from Laredo and Eagle Pass about two days before the high water reached this point, the growers refused to believe that it would come over the banks. The result is that those, who failed to build up their levees, lost the potatoes still undug. Fortunately, the flood did not extend far in from the river-bank and the majority of the fields were harvested. With the exception of the first few days, there has not been much activity to the f.o.b. potato market at this point. Expecting that the movement out of Florida would not start in a heavy way until about May 10, the tendency on the part of the shippers was to hold up the price. Up to last Saturday, the wire inquiry was fairly good but the demand rather slow, with the result that a good portion of the stock is still rolling unsold. It is believed that over 100 cars, or more than one-fifth of the cars already shipped, are rolling unsold. Lighter receipts and a smaller number of cars on track in Chicago on Saturday have lent courage to the shippers, so that it now seems quite probable that the present price will be maintained. Movement is now at its peak, and reached its half-way mark with a total of 490 cars up to April 25. Estimates for the total movement for the season are placed anywhere from 800 to 1,000 cars, but it is my belief that it will range between 900 and 1,000."

3b. FARMER FOLLOWS U.S. CROP AND MARKET REPORTS; GAINS $5,000.

Through R. H. Shoemaker, of the Grand Rapids office, a clipping was received from the April 29 issue of one of the Grand Rapids newspapers. The headlines are: "Farmer Follows U.S.'Tip.' Adds $5,000 to Income. Federal Forecast of 1925 Spud Acreage Helped Cadillac Man. Planted Extra Field of Potatoes."

The article goes on to tell how a prominent potato grower near Cadillac, Mich., watched the Government reports last year and decided to plant about 20 acres more than his original intentions. From this 20 acres he received an additional $5,000. He said he would have planted still more potatoes, but his wife would not let him, believing that he would lose heavily again, as he had done in some previous years. This grower is studying the situation carefully this season, and believes that it will be advisable to reduce his main-crop acreage for 1926.

RECORD OF SERVICES OVER LEASED WIRE DURING APRIL, 1926.

Name of Market Serviced	Total Number of Services to Markets	Errors by Markets	Telegraphic Errors	Insufficient Information by Markets	Unclassified Services to Markets	Unnecessary Services ***	Unanswered Services	Voluntary Corrections **
Atlanta	12	3	6	1	2	-	-	-
Baltimore	18	13	1	4	-	-	-	5
Boston	33	14	5	7	7	-	-	3
Chicago	49	23	10	8	7	-	1	13
Cincinnati	13	2	7	2	2	-	-	2
Ft. Worth*	20	6	5	4	5	-	-	2
Kansas City	17	4	3	7	3	-	-	4
Memphis	6	1	2	-	1	-	2	-
Minneapolis	11	7	2	2	-	-	-	1
New York	39	14	11	5	7	-	2	17
Omaha	7	2	4	1	-	-	-	-
Philadelphia	30	14	4	2	10	-	-	5
Pittsburgh	19	3	13	1	2	-	-	14
St. Louis	23	8	8	3	4	-	-	7
Washington	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21
Apr. Total	297	114	81	47	50	-	5	94
Mar. Total	309	122	69	36	78	1	3	74

* Including Dallas. ** Not included in the Total. *** By Washington.

4b. TOMATO SITUATION IN EAST TEXAS.

Under date of April 30, W. D. Googe, of the Fort Worth office, sent the following information on East Texas tomato prospects:-

"Reports from leading shippers in the Jacksonville district of East Texas show that cool weather and continuous rains have delayed the growing tomato plants in that section. There is estimated a 15% increase in acreage, Cherokee County having about 4,800 acres in 1925, but the stand is poor and a movement of about 2,000 cars is expected this year as against 2,100 last season. This estimate of the carlot shipments is based on favorable growing conditions. A white frost covered the entire crop on April 16. Practically no plants were killed, but they were badly stunted. The movement is expected to begin June 1 to 10. The varieties planted are mostly Acme, Detroit and Gulf State. A great many New Stones will be planted for summer and fall, and indications are that several cars of this variety will be shipped in the fall. Last year was generally dry, and only one straight car of fall tomatoes was shipped from this territory."

5b. POTATO MOVEMENT AT HASTINGS, FLA.

On the f.o.b. report, received from Hastings, Fla., this morning, Mr. Sutton states: "Estimated daily movement this week around 150 cars. Peak should be reached this week, but shipments next weekprobably around 800 cars. Week-after movement probably drop to around 500 cars. Estimated movement for season around 3,600 cars."

6b. HANDLING MARKET NEWS BY RADIO IN TEXAS.

In a recent communication from Laredo, Texas, where he is in charge of the market news field station, Mr. Prugh included the following interesting information:-

"It seems that Mr. Hunter's dream of covering Texas by radio has about reached a point where it can be classed as a success. Two years ago, when I operated this field station, he attempted to send me the market information from Austin to the Army station here at Fort McIntosh. Static prevented the weak sending-set at Austin from getting through about 50% of the time. However, this season Mr. Hunter is using the powerful Army radio station at Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, and it seems to be able to crash through any kind of static. The method is different from Rochester, N.Y., in that we use code, while at Rochester the Washington office sent through the Navy station in English. These Army stations here at Laredo and San Antonio are also powerful enough to 'break in' on each other, if a word is not clear, and have it repeated, just the same as in telegraphing. While a few code errors naturally occur, they are fewer than by the Western Union.

"When I stopped at San Antonio on my way down here, Mr. Hunter was using the Army station to send to Mr. Evers at Brownsville, and I believe he was sending information on three or four crops. Mr. Hunter would go out to the Fort, which is located quite a distance from the office, and get the greater part of the information by phone from his stenographer, as it came over the leased wire; then copy it on a typewriter, direct from the phone, and pass short messages on to the radio operator, who would immediately send them to Brownsville; therefore, I presume that, within five minutes after the information left Kansas City on the leased wire to San Antonio, it was received by the radio station at Brownsville.

"Here at Laredo, when I wish to relay a message to Washington or send some information to Mr. Hunter, I just call up the radio station at Fort McIntosh; give them the message, which they radio on to the Fort at San Antonio, whence it is phoned to our office there. If the message is intended for Washington or any other point on the leased wire, Mr. Hunter can forward it. It cuts the cost of telegraph bills and also is a time-saver."

7b. MORE NEWS FROM LAREDO ONION DISTRICT:

A. E. Prugh, in a letter written from Laredo, Texas, last Friday or Saturday, gave the following report on the onion situation:-

"The onion deal in the Laredo district has been rather discouraging so far. Most stock has been only of fair to ordinary quality, although lately it has been improving, and about 90 cars out of 585 have been inspected and passed the U.S. No. 1 grade. Several growers lost heavily by the hail. Estimates on shipments from Webb County, or Laredo, run usually 1,100 to 1,300 cars, late harvesting showing somewhat heavier yields. The crop in the Upper Counties, or Winter Garden section, is reported generally better than at Laredo.

"The plan for holding shipments to 100 or less per day became effective Tuesday and so far has been successful. A rain, lasting from midnight Wednesday until Thursday evening, probably will prevent getting any stock from the fields until Monday, and caused some firmness in the market today. Laredo's quota in the apportionment is 31 cars a day, which probably will extend the shipping season in this district through May."

B. C. BOREE, Marketing Specialist.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

Stations	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably will close
ROCHESTER, N. Y.** 419 Triangle Bldg.	837	H. S. Duncan A. L. Thomas	Apples Pears* Cabbage* Onions* Peaches* Celery* Potatoes Grapes* Carrots	Sept. 4 Sept. 4 Sept. 4 Sept. 14 Sept. 14 Sept. 16 Sept. 16 Sept. 21 Sept. 23	May 15 Oct. 31* Mar. 12* May 1* Oct. 3 * Jan. 23* May 15 Oct. 31* May 15
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. 419 Federal Bldg. MAIL: P.O. Box 86	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Apples* Potatoes Onions*	Oct. 7 Oct. 7 Oct. 7	Nov. 24* June 1 Mar. 20*
BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS** Chamber of Commerce	931	J. D. Evers	Cabbage* Beets & Carrots Potatoes Stg.Beans* Tomatoes	Feb. 1 Feb. 1 Mar. 29 Apr. 1 May 1	May 3* May 15 May 15 May 1* May 25
HAMMOND, LA. P.O. Bldg.	802	W. H. Mosier	Berries	Mar. 29	May 15
LAREDO, TEXAS** Chamber of Commerce	801	A. E. Prugh	Onions	Apr. 5	May 15
MOBILE, ALA. ** Custom House	924	H. E. Rutland	Cabbage Potatoes	Apr. 19 May 10	May 22 June 12
HASTINGS, FLA.** Bowles. Bldg.	851	R. L. Sutton	Potatoes	Apr. 22	May 22
CRYSTAL CITY, TEXAS** Depot	867	W. F. Cox	Onions	Apr. 22	May 20
WILMINGTON, N.C.** 102 Custom House	805	R. H. Lamb	Berries Lettuce Potatoes Stg.Beans Cucumbers	May 1 May 6 June 1 June 10 June 15	June 5 June 5 June 30 June 30 July 3
JUDSONIA, ARK.	856	W.G. Lensen	Berries	May 10	May 29
EL CENTRO, CALIF.	808	C. E. Schultz (A. E. Prugh)	Cants.	May 10	July 3
The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:					
MONETT, MO.	857	Unassigned	Berries	May 14	June 5
CHARLESTON, S. C.	858	J. W. Park	Potatoes	May 17	June 10

** State cooperating. * Reports discontinued.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. TOMATO INSPECTIONS AT PALMETTO, FLA.

A letter of May 1 from J. C. Townsend, Jr., Supervising Inspector at Palmetto, Fla., indicates that the tomato deal is lining up in good shape, particularly in view of the heavier crop in that section this year. Mr. Townsend believes that, when the deal is completed, the Inspection Service will have examined a large percentage of the shipments. Three cars were inspected last week, and were found to be good quality. Maturity was especially good. Heavy movement is expected to begin by May 10, with the peak around the 20th. Shippers and their brands are as follows:-

Shipper	Brand
Peerless Packing Company.....	Peerless
Manatee County Growers' Assn.....	Red Gator
Harlee & Harrison.....	Circle H
Buffalo Vegetable Market Co.....	Buffalo
H. T. Montgomery.....	Eagle
Courtney Bros.....	Courtney Quality

Mr. Townsend's letter closes with the following information:- "Have started a movement to improve the grade on what is now packed as 'crooks.' The present conception of this pack is 'crooks' and all the catfaces. I am advising them to leave out the 'cats' and pack a good No.2 grade, and sell on that basis. Took this up with two shippers yesterday and they are strong for the idea. This gives us inspection on the 2nd grade stock, which ordinarily we would not have got. Am going to try to make this a general practice, but will necessarily have to go slow."

2c. BIG POTATO INSPECTION DEAL IN NORTH CAROLINA.

A. E. Mercker, Supervising Inspector in North Carolina, advised in a letter of May 4 that applications have been filed for the inspection of 4,000 to 4,500 cars of potatoes at 10 or more shipping points in the State. The work is expected to begin about June 1 and continue until July 10. It is possible that a force of 40 to 60 inspectors will be required to handle the deal. The peach inspection deal, Mr. Mercker says, may not be quite so large as at first expected.

3c. TRUCK CROPS AT CRYSTAL SPRINGS, MISS.

Recently, C. R. Newton drove up to Crystal Springs, Miss., from Baton Rouge, La., to inaugurate the inspection service on peas. He said that the quality of peas that were brought in the day he was there seemed to be very good. "There is a marked contrast," continued Mr. Newton, "between the appearance of the country surrounding Crystal Springs and that in the Louisiana truck-growing sections. They have labored under the same adverse weather conditions, but they have better drainage and probably better truck growers. The cabbage, peas, carrots and beets all looked fine around Crystal Springs. The cabbage seemed to be heading up well and no seed stalks were visible in any of the fields I saw, while in Louisiana the cabbage fields look like flower gardens. The Mississippi shippers also are very strong for Government inspection."

4c. ONION INSPECTIONS IN THE WINTER GARDEN DISTRICT OF TEXAS.

The following important letter, regarding Texas onion inspections, was received from H. T. Longino, under date of April 29:-

"The first car of Bermuda onions in the Upper Counties was inspected April 13 and, since that time, we have inspected about 450 cars. The rain today has been light but covered the entire Winter Garden district and has stopped all loading.

"The first few cars that rolled were fairly well matured, and in most cases it seems that the growers have crowded the grade by not allowing the stock to lie on the borders long enough to assure proper wilting and drying of the neck. However, during the past few days we had clear, warm weather and the market seems changed, and from now on maturity will not be questionable.

"I presume that Mr. Terrell has advised you of the revision of the Texas State grade for Bermuda onions. Under this revision, they simply add 'Texas' to the U. S. grade. We are grading all cars on the basis of this revision by putting 'Texas' before our grade. I felt that we should issue our certificates that way.

"Mr. Conklin was here last Saturday and Sunday, but is now in Laredo with Mr. Gregory. While he was in this territory we had a thorough discussion of the onion grade and our interpretation of defects. The most important point in the discussion was the definition of the term 'Splits.' The definition says: 'Splits' mean onions which have developed more than one distinct bulb but covered by an outer scale. It seems that weather conditions have been such during the growing of the crop that a very large percentage of onions developed more than one distinct bulb, and there is a very small per cent of them that show ill shapes, as a result. The main trouble in grading such stock is that they have been clipped rather close, in most cases. This has resulted in the spreading of the necks after being allowed to cure down. If the same onions had been clipped with a little longer neck, curing down would have sealed the neck and thus permitted the onions to pass as No. 1. These onions I am referring to have two to four outer scales.

"I believe it will be advisable to call the attention of the market inspectors to the definition of 'Split.' The word 'an' we are interpreting as singular. We have had quite a few arguments with growers, who have clipped too close and have onions that are gapping open at the neck. In the same crates we have found stock clipped a little longer and just as well shaped, showing more than one bulb, which pass as No. 1.

"Another question that may come up in regard to the grade is the shape of the onions. No. 1 grade specifies 'well shaped,' meaning onions having the characteristic shape, not three, four, or five-sided, thick necks, or badly pinched by hard soil, but not necessarily of the flat Bermuda type. There are some fields here, where the ground has become very hard and this has resulted in ill-shapes. We are passing slightly misshapen stock and only scoring against No. 1 grade where the bulb is distinctly angular, pointed or badly misshapen. In other words, we are not scoring any shapes that are not distinctly ill-shaped.

"The allotment of growers, allowing only 100 cars to move daily from the entire territory, went into effect Tuesday. The buyers refuse to take any stock that does not meet requirements for grade. I believe that we are inspecting 95% of the movement in the Upper Counties. Most cars are grading U. S. No.1, with a few grading U. S. No. 1 Large. There are some cases where Crystal Wax stock, which has been badly pinched by hard soil, is being shipped as No. 2. We show on the certificate the approximate amount of U. S. No. 1 stock that is mixed in the crates."

5c. FLORIDA SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTIONS.

The following inspections were made at shipping points in the respective sections of Florida during the period, April 16 to 30:

	FRUITS				
Section	Grapefruit	Oranges	Tangerines	Mixed	Total
Leesburg	7	4	0	1	12
Mt. Dora	12	18	0	3	33
Tavares	2	3	0	3	8
Umatilla	3	10	0	3	16
Totals	24	35	0	10	69
Total to April 15	308	520	43	298	1169
	332	555	43	308	1238

	VEGETABLES				
Section	Celery	Potatoes	Cabbage	Tomatoes	Total
East Palatka	0	64	0	0	64
Elkton	0	7	0	0	7
Hastings	0	89	0	0	89
Leesburg	0	0	3	0	3
Manatee	1	0	0	0	1
Matoaka	1	0	0	0	1
Oneco	6	0	0	0	6
Orange Mills	0	25	0	0	25
Palmetto	0	0	0	2	2
Sanford	5	0	0	0	5
San Mateo	0	8	0	0	8
Spuds	0	3	0	0	3
Yelvington	0	5	0	0	5
Totals	13	201	3	2	219
Total to April 15	989	0	71	0	1060
	1002	201	74	2	1279

TOTAL INSPECTIONS OF FRUITS AND VEGETABLES TO APRIL 30:----------2,517

6c. POTATO INSPECTION DEAL ABOUT TO START IN LOUISIANA.

C. R. Newton has wired that contracts are being made and deposits paid for the inspection of some 700 cars of potatoes at Louisiana shipping points, beginning possibly next week and continuing at least three weeks.

The Shreveport tomato people advised Mr. Newton that everything was progressing satisfactorily with their crop, except that it is 10 days to two weeks later than expected. They anticipate a minimum of 300 cars.

It is possible that some 400 or 500 cars of string beans and sweet peppers will be signed up for inspection in the vicinity of Hammond, Independence, Ponchatoula and Denham Springs, La. In that event, Mr. Newton may make his headquarters temporarily at Hammond.

7c. ADDITIONAL GRADES BEING DISTRIBUTED.

With this D. L., each inspector will receive copies of the new U. S. grades for Fresh Peas and Creole Onions. These will be used at southern shipping points this season.

8c. METHOD OF MAKING MATURITY TEST OF CANTALOUPES.

The Cantaloupe Circular is being revised in conformity with the recent changes in the U. S. grades for this product. On account of the delay in getting this Circular mimeographed, instructions for making the maturity test, when required for appeal inspections of California cantaloupes, are printed below:

- Appendix to Cantaloupe Circular -

METHOD OF MAKING MATURITY TEST:

In selecting melons for the test, three crates, which as nearly as possible represent the minimum maturity of the lot, are selected. These crates should be sorted for immature melons, permitting a tolerance of five per cent by count, of immature cantaloupes (which must be included in the total ten per cent tolerance permitted by U. S. Grade No.1, but which must not be included in the test.)

The practical application of this tolerance means that in the case of flats, containing generally 12 or 15 melons, one green melon is set aside as a tolerance. In the case of standard, pony and jumbo crates, containing 36, 45 or 54 melons, two green melons are set aside for the tolerance. After this tolerance has been set aside the three greenest melons remaining from each of the three crates, whether flat, standard, pony or jumbo, are selected as a composite sample for testing. If the composite test of these cantaloupes is above 9 per cent, the lot is passed as meeting the requirements for U. S. Grade No.1 and the percentage shown by the test is reported on the certificate as the minimum sugar-test of the lot.

Apparatus required:

Metal cylinder.
Food grinder.
Knife.
Spoon.
Cotton bags or cheesecloth.
Two pans about 10" in diameter by 2½" deep.
Balling scale hydrometer with thermometer.
(Note: Brix and Balling hydrometer scales identical)

Method of Testing:

Melons are cut and contents of seed cavity are removed; the edible portion is removed with a spoon and passed through the food grinder.

The ground pulp is strained through cheesecloth and the juice poured into the cylinder until it runs over.

The hydrometer is then placed in the cylinder and is permitted to remain a few minutes to allow the air in the juice to escape and so that the thermometer will record the temperature of the juice. Care is taken that the hydrometer does not touch the sides of the cylinder.

The reading is taken just at the top of the liquid. The hydrometer is standard at some certain temperature (usually 60 degrees).

When temperature indicated is above or below the standard temperature, a correction must be applied.

(continued over)

This correction is shown on the scale within the instrument and is added when the temperature is above the standard, and subtracted when below.

As an example: Scale reads 10.2, thermometer 90 degrees F.; correction 10.2 plus 1.0 equals 11.2, the correct percentage of soluble solids.

Since the samples necessarily will show some variation, and the test is not exactly accurate, this test should be reported to the nearest half-degree. Thus, if the reading, properly corrected for temperature, reads between 8 and three quarters and 9 and one quarter, the minimum test should be shown as 9 degrees; if the corrected reading is between 9 and one quarter and 9 and three quarters, the minimum test should be shown as 9.5 degrees, etc.

Since all soluble solids do not consist of sugar, the certificate should never state "sugar content", but should be written "minimum sugar test ---%".

The saccharometer and all other utensils must be thoroughly cleaned after each test.

9c. ALL ABOUT ZELTROCIDE:

In writing to J. H. Hoover, on April 29, O. G. Strauss, of the Orlando office, gave the following description of the Zeltrocide process:

"Zeltrocide is a powder, which is mixed with water, and this solution is sprayed on the citrus fruit. The fruit is under this spray about one minute. It then drops into the washer, thence to the drier and the grading belt. On fruit of coarse texture, a white powder may be noticed at the stem end, but ordinarily on smooth-textured fruit this is not noticeable.

"A charge of 5¢ per box is made by the company. This includes the charge for application and insures the shipper against decay in excess of 3%. If as many as 50,000 boxes are treated in one packing house in a season, a refund of 2¢ per box is made by the company. The important thing is that it is not necessary to ice the cars, to get this protection. With the exception of artificially-colored fruit, all shipments are made under ventilation. The cost of the service is about the same as the icing charges would be."

10c. WASHINGTON AND OREGON INSPECTIONS.

During the month of March, 696 certificates were issued in the State of Washington, making the total for the current fiscal year, 22,334. In Oregon during the same month 709 certificates were issued, including 454 on broccoli. This brings the current year's total for the State of Oregon to 5,548 certificates.

10½c. "HEAD LETTUCE IN WESTERN WASHINGTON."

Harry D. Locklin, Horticulturist at the Puyallup, Wash., Experiment Station, is author of a 10-page mimeographed bulletin on "Head Lettuce in Western Washington." This is a comprehensive statement regarding western lettuce, from both the producing and the marketing standpoint. In fact, it tells practically all that any grower of lettuce needs to know, with special reference to conditions in the State of Washington. Copies doubtless can be had from Mr. Locklin, at Puyallup, or from F. E. Bailey, at our Spokane office.

The next 3 items are from California Inspectors' Notes, April 30:-

11c. WASHINGTON OFFICIAL WELCOMED AT SACRAMENTO ON APRIL 30:

H. W. Samson, Specialist in Standardization of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Washington, D. C., arrived in Sacramento this morning, after an extended trip through the Pacific Northwest.

Discussing recent developments in standardization in the Northwest, Mr. Samson said: "The State of Washington has now adopted compulsory grades for asparagus, cantaloupes and American bunch grapes, and will use the United States grades for these commodities as official State standards. At the official grade and standardization conference, held at Yakima, the Washington apple grades were greatly strengthened by the elimination of the '4th grade' for apples and the raising of the specification for 'C grade' apples. Apples which show no characteristic color, or which are materially deformed, are no longer permitted in 'C grade.' The term '4th grade,' which really has existed only as an emergency measure, now being eliminated, all apples which fall below the 'C grade' will be termed 'Culls.' As the representatives from Oregon and Idaho also attended this conference, it is thought likely that these States also will eliminate their present 4th grades.

"The State of Oregon has adopted as optional offical standards the U. S. grades on peaches and European and American grapes.

"Numerous conferences, held with leading fruit growers and shippers throughout the Northwest, discussed the problem of eliminating excessive arsenical spray residue. All those agencies are giving every cooperation to prevent a recurrence of last year's unfortunate experience in England, which threatened seriously to jeopardize the reputation of all Northwestern apples."

Mr. Samson expressed surprise at the cool weather here in California, as the temperature had been over 90 when he left Portland. Mr. Samson still has all his old-time pep and it is good to have him with us again.

12c. SUPERVISORS OUTLINE TRIP THROUGH CALIFORNIA.

Mr. Allewelt gives the following tentative itinerary for the trip to be made by the officials from Washington, D. C., and the western States, following their conference in Sacramento May 5 and 6:

May 7 -- San Francisco and Colma.	May 13-14 - Imperial Valley.
May 8-9- Watsonville and Salinas.	May 15-16 - Coachella Valley.
May 10 - Santa Maria.	May 17 - Los Angeles.
May 11 - Ventura and Los Angeles.	May 18 - Shafter.
May 12 - San Diego.	May 19 - Dinuba and Porterville.

The remainder of the trip will be outlined later.

13c. LETTUCE SITUATION AT SALINAS, CALIF.

The shipping-point inspector at Salinas inspected 10 cars of lettuce on April 24, and added to that day's report the following notation: "Quality still poor. F.o.b. price $2.50- to $3.00. Have had four hot days; 90 degrees on April 25. Very unusual for this time of year. Expect more tip-burn. No Number 1's yet."

Through the cooperation of our San Francisco office, daily market reports on lettuce are being mimeographed and mailed by the Salinas Chamber of Commerce, and are also printed in the Salinas Journal.

ROBERT BIER, Supervising Inspector.

TEMPORARY HEADQUARTERS OF EASTERN AND SOUTHERN SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION DEALS

State	Federal Supervisor	Products	Approx. date of Opening	Closing
FLORIDA:	O. G. Strauss, Box 188, Orlando, Fla.	Citrus Fruit	Oct. 1	May 25
	G. R. Warren, H. W. Schneck, Hastings, Fla.	Potatoes	Apr. 20	June 1
	J. C. Townsend, Jr., Box 629, Palmetto, Fla.	Tomatoes	Apr. 26	May 29
TEXAS:	C. D. Shirley, Harlingen, Texas	Vegetables	Jan. 1	June 1
	M. C. Gregory, Chamber of Commerce, Laredo, Texas	Onions	Apr. 5	May 8
	H. T. Longino, Carrizo Springs, Texas	Onions	Apr. 10	May 20
ARKANSAS:	G. W. Winfrey, Van Buren, Ark.	Berries	May 3	June 5
MISSISSIPPI:	C. R. Newton, Box 608, Baton Rouge, La.	Mississippi Peas, etc.	May 3	June 26
TENNESSEE:	R. C. Lindstrom, c/o Farm Bureau, Jackson, Tenn.	Berries	May 7	May 29
	J. A. Marks, County Court House, Chattanooga, Tenn.	Berries	May 10	May 29
MISSOURI:	N. D. Sanborn, Monett, Mo.	Berries	May 10	June 5
The following station probably will open about the date indicated:				
GEORGIA:	O. G. Strauss, Macon, Ga.	Peaches	June 1	July 25
The following station closed about the date indicated:				
				Closed
FLORIDA:	J. C. Townsend, Jr., Sanford, Fla.	Celery	Jan. 1	Apr. 24
		Cabbage	Mar. 5	Apr. 24

NOTE: Supervisors are asked to send corrections of dates in the above columns.

OFFICE NOTES:

After nearly five years' effective service in the Market News Project, John D. Snow, of the Denver office, has announced his intention to resign about June 1. He expects to become a partner with Elmer G. Hartner in a new produce firm, to be known as the Hartner-Snow Company, in Denver, specializing in potatoes and onions. Mr. Snow was appointed to the Fruit and Vegetable Division in September, 1921, and for two years operated temporary field stations in producing sections. For short periods, he also substituted at market stations. About July 1, 1923, he was placed in charge of the Denver office of the Market News Service. Mr. Snow's departure will be much regretted, but he will carry with him our best wishes for success.

Edwin Smith landed in New York City last Friday and reported in the Washington office on Monday, May 3. He was accompanied to America by Mrs. Smith, who proceeded to Canada for a visit with relatives there. Probably by next Tuesday, May 11, Mr. Smith will be leaving for points in California, Oregon, Washington and Idaho, and before returning to the Washington office may also visit Rochester, N. Y. He plans to meet Mr. Samson in Los Angeles on the 17th, for a conference regarding conditions in the West. Mr. Smith will confer with growers and shippers of apples and citrus fruits regarding the British and European market situation. He probably will be absent two months.

Mr. Robb has wired that he expects to leave Sacramento, with others who attended the conference there, on a tour of shipping points throughout the southern part of California, going via the coast route. By Saturday, May 8, he probably will be at Watsonville; on the 10th at Santa Maria, and on the 11th at Los Angeles. Points in the Coachella and Imperial Valleys also will be visited before leaving the State.

W. H. Hall's health has so greatly improved that he returned to duty in the Chicago office of the News Service on May 1, and is again in charge of that work.

Mr. Stillwell was at Hammond, La., on Thursday, conferring with W. H. Mosier and strawberry shippers.

W. L. Evans and H. V. DeMott returned from New York City at the end of last week. They were in New York as Government representatives in a court case, involving excess profits on 1918 wool, and the points decided in this trial were decided in favor of the Department.

Miss Ruth F. Idler, of the Indianapolis office, was obliged to be absent for 12 days during the latter part of April on account of illness.

A conference in Washington yesterday afternoon was attended by F. B. Bomberger, Chief of the Maryland Dept. of Markets; S. B. Shaw, Maryland Marketing Specialist, and Mr. Ross, of the Peninsula Produce Exchange, for the purpose of discussing the possibilities of a special market news station at Pocomoke City, Md., this season. It was decided to open an office there about May 20.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

J. C. Townsend, Jr., completed his supervision of inspections at Sanford, Fla., about 10 days ago, and is now to be addressed at P.O. Box 629, Palmetto, Fla., where he is handling an inspection deal on tomatoes.

H. T. Longino has moved from Crystal City to Carrizo Springs, Texas. He should be addressed in care of the Chamber of Commerce, Carrizo Springs, until the completion of the onion inspection deal in that territory.

R. C. Lindstrom can now be reached in care of the Farm Bureau at Jackson, Tenn. He is supervising inspections of strawberries in western Tennessee.

For the next month, N. D. Sanborn should be addressed at General Delivery, Monett, Mo. He arrived at Monett this week, and will handle the berry inspection deal in southwestern Missouri.

While inspecting strawberries in eastern Tennessee, J. A. Marks' mail and other communications should be sent in care of the District Agricultural Agent, Court House, Chattanooga, Tenn.

It is expected that the inspection work (chiefly on apples) at Duluth, Minn., will be completed this week, and that office will be closed. P. T. Baden, who has handled this work since the middle of February, will return to his headquarters in Chicago.

The proper mail address for George E. Prince, of the S. C. Division of Markets, is P.O. Box 441, Aiken, S. C.

B. E. Shaffer went from Wauchula to Orlando, Fla., at the end of last week, and now has proceeded to Hastings, Fla., where he can be reached in care of G. R. Warren, Supervising Inspector. Mr. Shaffer is making a study of potatoes in the Hastings section. (LATER: He is en route to Wash., D.C.)

The Shenandoah Valley Apple Blossom Festival was held at Winchester, Va., on Tuesday and Wednesday of this week. Miss Mary Gott, Miss Julia Collier and Miss Edna Walker, of the F. & V. Division, attended the Festival, and report a large crowd present. The Valley is very beautiful in its mass of apple blossoms. F. Earl Parsons, of the Richmond office, also was at Winchester for this event.

W. G. Lensen, of the Chicago office, has gone to Judsonia, Ark., to operate the market news station on strawberries.

J. K. Boyd, of the Pittsburgh office, advised that the first carload of Mexican cantaloupes had reached that market. They were Salmon Tints and moved slowly at $2.25-$3.00 per flat crate of 15 to 18 melons.

Word just received from Rochester, N.Y., indicates that the reports on apples and potatoes may be continued at that office until the end of May.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 7, NO. 20
May 14, 1926.
(Contents Confidential)

1a. STATUS OF THE STANDARD TRADING RULES PROJECT.

The large space given by the trade press to discussions of the proposed standard trading rules may mislead some of the field force as to what is going on. There has been no change in the position or plans of the Department. Eleventh-hour opposition appeared. Lawyers were hired and a strong effort made to induce members of the House and Senate to ask the Department to change its plans. Most of those approached appear to have ignored the matter or have referred the question to the Department for an explanation of the facts.

Mr. Tenny, Assistant Chief of the Bureau, explained our plans to the Appropriation Committee during the hearings on our bill and has discussed the matter informally with members of other committees which might be interested. They do not indicate any desire to take up the question of new legislation at this time.

The proper answer to all inquiries is that the Department is glad to have the matter fully discussed and is giving full information on its plans to all who ask. Nothing has happened to change the position of the Department, as set forth in Service and Regulatory Announcements No. 97, the contents of which should be familiar to all of our technical employees. The entire activity is regarded as an experiment and demonstration, and will be carried on in cooperation with those who wish to aid in it.

WELLS A. SHERMAN,
Specialist in Charge,
Fruit and Vegetable Division

2a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR MAY 8:

Page 293 - Special paragraphs on strawberries in the weekly review.
294 - Additional Field Stations of Market News Service.
295 - Texas String Beans Show Good Quality, - by J. D. Evers.
- Egyptian Onions Arriving Freely, - by W. H. Stanton.
300 - Market Reports Issued in North Carolina.

3a. FIELD NOTES ON LETTUCE AND ONIONS.

Last July there came to our attention a very good booklet, published by C. C. Morse & Company, Seed Growers, at San Francisco, and entitled "Field Notes on Carrots." This company also has other booklets, "Field Notes on Lettuce" and "Field Notes on Onions," which are distinctly worth-while. The author of all the books is Lester L. Morse, and each one contains an abundance of remarkably clear and helpful illustrations of the several varieties of the products described. The photographic half-tone plates are exceptionally good.

4a. NOT SO "STARTLING" AFTER ALL.

In Par. 2c of the D. L. for April 30, we published, under the sub-head "A Startling Discovery," the statement of L. G. Schultz, concerning some potatoes which he found being dug in April from fields in southeastern Idaho, near the Wyoming line. The item aroused considerable interest and brought two replies or challenges, as follows:

R. L. Ringer wrote from Portland on May 3: "It is a common practice to leave potatoes in the ground in the hill sections of western Oregon and to dig them in the spring. In such places as Chehalim Mountain near Sherwood, Ore., the Laurel Hills and the hills around Scholls, the fall rains make the roads impassable, the fields too wet to dig and the hunting too good to be missed. A blanket of snow protects from the winter's cold and, in the spring, the potatoes come out fresh, dry, and always top the market over stock that has been in storehouses or pits. It is only an occasional winter that any loss is sustained from freezing."

H. A. Harris, of the Los Angeles office, also wrote on May 7: "While I was engaged in farming in the Palouse country in eastern Washington, some 12 or 14 years ago, it was common practice to leave potatoes in the ground and dig them in the spring, if the pressure of other farm work made it inconvenient to dig them in the fall. In four winters out of five, they could be dug without any loss except those occasional tubers that were not covered by the soil. However, this district was not strictly-speaking a commercial producing area, as the plantings were usually one to five acres and intended for local consumption, with only occasional fields running from 10 to 100 acres. I have been told also that it is not infrequent for potatoes to go through the winter successfully in the ground in the Williamette Valley of western Oregon.

"The sweet-potato growers in the Imperial Valley have found that the best storage they can get is to leave their crop in the ground after maturity in the fall until they wish to market it, sometimes as late as April or May. However, this is a different proposition in that freezing temperatures are seldom, if ever, encountered in the Imperial Valley."

5a. ADDITIONAL NEWS OF FOREIGN MARKETS:

The following reports were issued by the Foreign Marketing Section this week:- F.S.:O-28, "Egyptian Onion Shipments." F.S.:F-23, "British and German Fruit Imports in March." F.S.:AL-16, "Large Mediterranean Almond Crop Indicated."

6a. NEW BULLETIN ON "APPLE BLOTCH."

Farmers' Bulletin No. 1479, on "Apple Blotch," has come from the press. The authors are John W. Roberts and Leslie Pierce, of the Office of Fruit-Disease Investigations, B.P.I. The bulletin is well illustrated, and, in addition to a detailed description of this apple trouble, gives suggestions as to its prevention.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. INTERESTING NEWS REGARDING LOUISIANA STRAWBERRIES.

Two recent letters from W. H. Mosier, at Hammond, La., give very interesting items concerning the Louisiana berry deal. His first letter was written on May 5 and the second one on May 8:-

(May 5) "The deal at Hammond is going along in good shape and is satisfactory to all concerned, especially the growers. Quality of the fruit is good and prices high. Last evening the 43 cars sold on the two auctions averaged $3.76 per 24-pint crate. If nothing unforseen happens, the district will probably ship 2,000 cars this season, with a monetary return close to $5,000,000; the most successful season on record."

(May 8) "The season to date has been very successful. Sales are well past the $4,000,000 mark, and from present indications will reach $5,000,000. We had a heavy rain Thursday and its effect on the crop was problematical. Last evening the price touched bottom for the year, with an average of $2.41 per 24-pint crate. However, this figure is well above that on the same date last season. But things change quickly. This morning the weather is fine, the fruit fairly good, the Carolinas are falling off and prices advancing. Chicago went crazy and cleaned up 17 cars of Louisianas, starting with $3.50 and ending with $5.00. One wise boy here on the ground sensed the situation, took a chance, and bought six rollers at an average of $2.35. Now he is sitting in fromt of the hotel making faces at the other buyers. In fact, the situation is just the reverse from that of last evening. Was out on the street about an hour ago, talking to several members of the trade, as well as growers. All are optimistic and claim the market is coming back. They can make money at $2.00. It would not surprise me to see two weeks more of fairly heavy shipments from the district, providing the weather is at all favorable. As the situation stands at present, would suggest you plan on leaving me here until Saturday, May 22. If any sudden change takes place, will inform you by wire."

2b. MARKET REPORTS ON LETTUCE AT SALINAS, CALIF.

The San Francisco office is sending daily to the Salinas Chamber of Commerce, via the Salinas Journal, the carlot shipments of lettuce and seven or eight important markets. These are published in the Journal, for the benefit of the local lettuce interests. They are also mimeographed by the Chamber of Commerce, in practically the same form as our own daily market reports, and mailed to the various shippers. Arrangements were made with the P.F.E. Company to furnish a daily report to Salinas on the number of cars ordered for each shipping point in the immediate territory.

This is one of the first daily market reports to be issued by a commercial organization in almost the identical style of our own mimeographed bulletins. The Chamber of Commerce was anxious to get a field station at Salinas during the lettuce season, and, when advised that it would not be possible to send a man there, they arranged to mimeograph and distribute the report themselves, on the basis of information furnished (collect) by this Bureau.

3b. TOO MANY UNCLAIMED ENVELOPES RETURNED TO WASHINGTON.

Officials of the Bureau and the Department are very anxious to reduce, if possible, the large number of unclaimed or undelivered letters, which are returned to the Washington office, when they should be returned directly to the office which originated them. Consideration was given to the feasibility of having the address of the local branch office or field station printed on envelopes, but this was not considered advisable because of the lack of local storage space at most offices and because of the necessity, which frequently arises, of transferring supplies from one office to another.

The best thing that can be done to correct this matter is for each office to have a rubber stamp, or an addressograph plate, in large and conspicuous type, bearing the local address, and print this in the logical place on each envelope used in circularizing mailing lists or for mailing reports from field stations during the first few days of the season. Please give this matter your careful attention, as the mass of mail returned to Washington is too large.

4b. CABBAGE AND POTATOES IN MOBILE DISTRICT.

H. E. Rutland, in charge of the Mobile, Ala., field station, wired on May 12 as follows: "Excellent weather here last two weeks so improved cabbage quality and yield that likely 1,300 cars will move. Stock last week ran medium to large sizes; excellent quality and hard. Shipments now cut closer, showing less green. Some late fields running 300 crates per acre. Indications 20 cars potatoes out on May 16, if present market holds. General movement by 24th. Expects discontinue cabbage reports 19th; start potato reports 18th." Editor's note: Up to May 8 about 840 cars of cabbage had been shipped from Alabama, and movement was then averaging 50 cars daily.

5b. SUMMARY OF 1925 WESTERN CANTALOUPE DEALS.

A very comprehensive Summary of Western Cantaloupe Deals, Season of 1925, has been released during the week. The authors are C. E. Schultz and E. E. Prince. This summary is unique in that it combines the records for the cantaloupe deals in the Imperial Valley, the Salt River Valley of Arizona, and the Turlock district of California. The front cover carries a picture of a half cantaloupe, all ready for the crushed ice or the ice-cream. The summary proper contains an outline map of western States, showing the location of the several deals. Each of the three deals is reviewed separately in the opening pages, and then follow the large number of statistical tables, containing information of vast value to the growers and the trade.

6b. CALIFORNIA BERMUDA ONION DEAL SUMMARIZED.

H. A. Harris, of the Los Angeles office, has just distributed a summary of the Southern California Bermuda Onion Deal, 1925. Producing sections are described and onion shipments are shown by billing stations for three years. The shipping-point inspection service also is given special mention. Several pages are devoted to a statement regarding onion imports, especially onions from Egypt, which compete somewhat with the California product. Copies of this summary can be had directly from the Los Angeles office.

6½b. REPORTS STARTED ON CANTALOUPES.

The season's mimeographed market reports on Cantaloupes were resumed by the Washington office last Monday, May 10.

7b. SPECIAL REPORT ON CHICAGO UNLOADS.

A large, 36-page mimeographed report on 1925 unloads of fruits and vegetables in Chicago has just been released by that office. J. H. Hall and J. G. Lensen cooperated in compiling this document, which is put up in very attractive style. The front page is decorated with a map, showing the streets and avenues in the produce district of Chicago. The location is plainly shown of the South Water Market, the concentration yards and fruit auctions, the Randolph Market, and the railroad stations, as well as Lake Michigan.

The introductory pages of this report contain a description of the various produce centers in Chicago and their respective functions. Special attention is given to the new South Water Market. Explanation also is made of the sources of data in the report, and of the meaning of the various columns of figures.

There is a separate sheet for each of the leading fruits and vegetables received in Chicago, some of the smaller products being grouped together on one sheet. Tabulations are on the basis of States for each product, and comparative figures are given for 1924, alongside the column for 1925. The four classes of data include commercial production figures; total carlot shipments, Chicago arrivals, and Chicago unloads. Interesting comments are made on a number of products, such as the containers used, the principal shipping districts and the chief loading points. Varieties also are discussed briefly.

8b. WATERMELON OUTLOOK IN TEXAS.

Writing from Fort Worth on May 6, W. D. Googe gave the following information concerning watermelon prospects in certain parts of Texas:-

"The year 1926 promises increased shipments of watermelons from Texas, over those of 1925. Most East Texas sections report an increased acreage of 15% to 25% and, with seasonable weather, the number of cars to be moved will be nearly double the output of last year, which was comparatively short on account of the dry weather. There will be a considerable movement from Nacogdoches, which heretofore has not played an important part in the watermelon shipments from Texas. Alvord, in Wise County, expects to ship about 300 cars this year. Hood County reports about the same acreage. Parker County reports 3,700 acres this year, as against 5,000 in 1925, the farmers having been discouraged by poor returns last year. Both Parker and Hood counties suffered severely from last year's drouth. The crop is generally in good condition at this date, but is ten days to two weeks later than last year. Indications are that the carlot movement will not be under way in these sections of the State until the latter part of July."

9b. BRIEF NOTES ON VARIOUS DEALS:

- J. D. Evers, on a postal card of May 4, said: "Recent rains are delaying movement of potatoes considerably, but diggings should be completed by May 15 in the lower Rio Grande Valley."

- "We have had some warm weather," wrote A. L. Thomas from Rochester, N.Y., on May 5. "Last Sunday it was 83°, which is mid-summer weather up here".

B. C. BOREE,
Marketing Specialist.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

Stations	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably will close
ROCHESTER, N. Y. ** 419 Triangle Bldg.	837	H. S. Duncan A. L. Thomas	Apples Pears* Cabbage* Onions* Peaches* Celery* Potatoes Grapes* Carrots	Sept. 4 Sept. 4 Sept. 4 Sept. 14 Sept. 14 Sept. 16 Sept. 16 Sept. 21 Sept. 23	May 29 Oct. 31* Mar. 12* May 1* Oct. 3* Jan. 23* May 29 Oct. 31* May 15
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. 419 Federal Bldg. MAIL: P.O. Box 86	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Apples* Potatoes Onions*	Oct. 7 Oct. 7 Oct. 7	Nov. 24* June 1 Mar. 20*
BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS.** Chamber of Commerce	931	J. D. Evers	Cabbage* Beets* Carrots Potatoes Stg.Beans* Tomatoes	Feb. 1 Feb. 1 Feb. 1 Mar. 29 Apr. 1 May 1	May 8* May 8* May 15 May 15 May 1* May 25
HAMMOND, LA. P.O. Bldg.	802	W.H. Mosier	Berries	Mar. 29	May 20
MOBILE, ALA.** Custom House	924	H. E. Rutland	Cabbage Potatoes	Apr. 19 May 18	May 19 June 12
HASTINGS, FLA.** Bowles Bldg.	851	R. L. Sutton	Potatoes	Apr. 22	May 22
CRYSTAL CITY, TEXAS** Depot	867	W. F. Cox	Onions	Apr. 22	May 20
WILMINGTON, N. C.** 102 Custom House	805	R. H. Lamb	Berries Lettuce Potatoes Stg.Beans Cucumbers	May 1 May 6 June 1 June 10 June 15	June 5 June 5 June 30 June 30 July 3
JUDSONIA, ARK. Bank of Judsonia Bldg.	856	W. G. Lensen	Berries	May 10	May 29
EL CENTRO, CALIF. Barbara Worth Hotel	808	C. E. Schultz A. E. Prugh	Cants.	May 11	July 10

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

POCOMOKE CITY, MD.**	878	H. W. Schneck A. Stambaugh	Berries Potatoes	May 20 June 15	June 15 July 31
MONETT, MO.	857	W. H. Mosier	Berries	May 24	June 15
CHARLESTON, S. C.	858	J. W. Park	Potatoes	May 24	June 19
LEESBURG, FLA.** (or Ocala)	832	R. L. Sutton	Tomatoes Cucumbers W-melons	May 26 May 26 May 26	June 19 June 12 June 26
MACON, GA.**	833	Unassigned	Peaches	June 1	July 24
CRYSTAL SPRINGS,MISS.	809	Unassigned	Tomatoes	June 3	June 30
JACKSONVILLE, TEXAS	811	W. F. Cox	Tomatoes	June 3	June 30
ELIZABETH CITY, N. C.	810	Unassigned	Potatoes	June 7	June 30

The following station closes on date indicated:

LAREDO, TEXAS** Chamber of Commerce	801	A. E. Prugh	Onions	Apr. 5	May 15

** State cooperating. * Reports discontinued.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. STRAWBERRY SITUATION IN EASTERN TENNESSEE.

In a letter of May 8, from Chattanooga, Tenn., J.A. Marks gave the following information regarding the strawberry outlook in the eastern part of that State:

"I believe the growers will start loading the first car about Monday, May 10, though shipments will be light until the following week. A few crates are being picked for the local market this week. *** Do not believe the tonnage will run more than 80% of the estimate. Dry weather is worrying them again, as last year. However, showers in the next few days will be in time to prevent serious damage. We have a couple of new associations this season. Mr. Jerdan was down yesterday and covered part of the territory with me. Am holding a meeting tonight with one of the new associations and probably will get the other on Monday. With favorable weather conditions, there probably will be an increased tonnage next year. There has been quite an acreage set to new berries."

2c. NEW INSPECTION DEALS IN FLORIDA.

O. G. Strauss, in a letter of May 3 from Orlando, gave an indication of some additional inspection work in Florida this season:

"It is possible, in fact very likely, that we will have from 500 to 2,000 cars of watermelons to inspect around Chipley and Graceville, Fla. Mr. Rhodes was over there last week at a meeting of the watermelon shippers, and those at Chipley have 500 cars that they want inspection on and there are 1,500 cars to be inspected at Graceville. Mr. Rhodes and I may go over there sometime around the middle of the month. These shipments should start around June 1.

"The tomato deal around Clewiston and South Bay may take an inspector. Mr. Rhodes and I are both very anxious to put a man down there.

"The pineapple shippers have requested inspection again this year but their tonnage has been reduced to 30 cars, and I doubt whether we can make any arrangements to inspect such a small amount."

The following item is from Shipping-Point Inspectors' Letter No. 22, issued by F. E. Bailey, Spokane, Wash., on April 27:

3c. GROUND COLOR CHART FOR APPLES AND PEARS.

W. F. Allewelt, Chief of the Bureau of Fruit and Vegetable Standardization, California State Department of Agriculture, recently forwarded to the Spokane office one of the color panels, which he has prepared for the use of his inspectors in standardizing their ideas on ground color, in connection with certification work and pressure test investigations. These panels, which are prepared on veneer board and protected with a shellac coating are a reproduction of some water-color charts, designed for similar work by Dr. Magness. The shellac panels are especially adapted to field use, for which the water-color charts could not well be used. Dr. Magness and Mr. Robb were asked to suggest the terms for the four shades, illustrated on the panels, and have agreed upon the following terms, "green","light green", "turning", and "yellow".

The next 3 items are from California Inspectors' Notes, dated May 7, 1926:

4c. FRUIT AND VEGETABLE GRADING DISCUSSED AT CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE.

Federal and State officials having charge of the fruit and vegetable standardization and inspection work of the United States Department of Agriculture and of five western State Departments have just completed a two-day conference at Sacramento and left on a field trip, covering the principal districts in California which are shipping these products at the present time.

Director G. H. Hecke, of the California Department of Agriculture, opened the meeting with a welcome to the visitors and gave a very clear outline of the development of fruit and vegetable standardization work in the State of California and the more recent organization and progress of the shipping-point inspection.

F. G. Robb, Specialist in Inspection, in charge of the food products inspection work of the Federal Bureau of Agricultural Economics, who acted as chairman, discussed briefly the organization and progress of the Federal inspection service, with particular reference to the cooperative shipping-point inspection work which the United States Department is now conducting in cooperation with 36 different States. Many questions which have arisen during the past year in connection with the work were then taken up in a general discussion by all of those present.

H. W. Samson, Specialist in Standardization, in charge of the fruit and vegetable standardization work of the Federal Bureau of Agricultural Economics, was in attendance, as well as E. E. Conklin, Jr., of the same office, who has been assigned permanently to assist in this work in the States of California, Nevada and Arizona. E. F. McKune, Federal and State Supervisor of inspection work in Colorado; L. G. Schultz, Federal Supervisor in Idaho; F. E. Bailey, Federal Supervisor in Washington and Oregon; C. H. Behnke, Federal Supervisor in Washington; J. I. Griner, Supervisor of Horticulture, Washington State Department of Agriculture; Harry Sabin, in charge of inspection work of the Idaho State Department of Agriculture, and S. C. Dinsmore, in charge of inspection for the State of Nevada also attended. W. F. Allewelt, Chief of the Bureau of Fruit and Vegetable Standardization and S.S. Rogers, Assistant Chief, of the California State Department of Agriculture, were in attendence, as well as E. J. Powell, Assistant State Supervisor of Inspection, H. W. Peterson, Sam Preston, C. H. Beasley and H. W. Poulsen, Supervising Inspectors in the California work.

Mr. and Mrs. S. S. Rogers entertained the visiting supervisors and officials at an informal party at their home on Thursday evening.

5c. LOOSE STRAWBERRY PACK ADOPTED AT FLORIN, CALIFORNIA.

The Bureau of Standardization, together with Commissioner Morrison of Sacramento County, made an investigation of strawberry shipments at Florin last week, which caused the growers there to change overnight their method of packing their fruit. For a number of years, the Florin berries have been packed in the baskets with the top layer "faced." As a result of recommendations of Mr. Morrison and this office, all the shipments of the Oregon Plum variety are now leaving as "loose packs."

It was found that the Oregon Plum variety, which comprises a majority of the acreage in the district, is an extremely tender and juicy berry. The old practice of pressing or jostling the berries down firmly in the basket, before placing on the top layer, in almost every case caused excessive bruising and exudes of juice. The inevitably poor condition of the berries on arrival in the markets had caused much trouble for buyers and carriers. This bruised condition made it necessary for the county inspectors to reject over 1,200 crates, or 1/5 of the day's output for shipment, these rejected berries being sent to local markets. Although there are several hundred growers in the district, mostly Japanese, the field men notified them, and overnight the long-used face and fill pack was replaced by a loose pack.

The present loose pack of berries, recommended by the officials, has virtually eliminated all difficulty from crushed and juicy berries. The growers are now also picking to a closer standard of maturity, and immature and overripe berries have been reduced to a minimum. The new arrangement has met with great favor from the growers, since it saves them the cost of facing, which was about 10¢ a crate. The berries are now selling around $1.75 a crate f.o.b. About 80 cars should be shipped from the district this season.

6c. LARGE PEACH AND APRICOT PACK EXPECTED.

"A good crop of peaches and apricots is in evidence in the San Joaquin Valley," said W. H. Tuggle, Supervising Inspector of canned fruit, just returned from that section. "A heavy pack of both fruits is expected. The peach crop is considerably heavier than last season, and new acreages have come into bearing. Though the apricot crop is probably no heavier than last year, the fruit is cleaner and much freer from blemishes. Cannery prices have not been established as yet, but the growers are hoping to receive $75 a ton for 10-12 apricots, owing to the heavy demand for the fruit from dried-fruit bidders.

"A small peach crop is feared in southern California, due to the mild winter and early blossoming of the trees. Many of the trees are only now commencing to leaf out, and it is feared that this retarded development will bring on a recurrence of the condition which caused such losses in 1924. A large crop of apricots is predicted in the Hemet section of Riverside County, and consequently a predominance of small sizes."

Leading fruit packers in southern California were interviewed during the course of Mr. Tuggle's trip and their cordial approval of the new canned-fruit standardization law and its enforcement was very gratifying. "The opinion was prevalent among packers that the new law will prove as great a protection for them as for the consumer."

7c. REVISED GRADES BEING DISTRIBUTED.

Revised grades for Sweet Potatoes and grades for American (Eastern Type) Bunch Grapes are being sent to all inspectors with this Division Letter.

TEMPORARY HEADQUARTERS OF EASTERN AND SOUTHERN SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION DEALS

State	Federal supervisor	Products	Approx. date of Opening	Approx. date of Closing
FLORIDA:	C. G. Strauss Box 188, Orlando, Fla.	Citrus Fruit	Oct. 1	May 25
	G. R. Warren, Hastings, Fla.	Potatoes	Apr. 20	June 1
	J. C. Townsend, Jr. Box 629, Palmetto, Fla.	Tomatoes	Apr. 26	May 29
TEXAS:	C. D. Shirley, Harlingen, Texas	Vegetables	Jan. 1	June 1
	H. T. Longino, Carrizo Springs, Texas	Onions	Apr. 10	May 20
	M. C. Gregory, Eagle Lake, Texas	Potatoes	May 19	June 5
ARKANSAS:	G. W. Winfrey, Van Buren, Ark.	Berries	May 3	June 5
MISSISSIPPI:	C. R. Newton, Box 608, Baton Rouge, La.	Mississippi Peas, etc.	May 3	June 26
TENNESSEE:	R. C. Lindstrom, c/o Farm Bureau, Jackson, Tenn.	Berries	May 7	May 29
	J. A. Marks, County Court House, Chattanooga, Tenn.	Berries	May 10	May 29
VIRGINIA:	K. W. Schaible, Cape Charles, Va.	Berries Cabbage	May 17 May 20	June 12 June 12
MISSOURI:	N. D. Sanborn, Monett, Mo.	Berries	May 20	June 19
MARYLAND:	H. W. Schneck, Pocomoke City, Md.	Berries Potatoes	May 20 June 15	June 19 July 31
The following station probably will open about the date indicated:				
GEORGIA:	O. G. Strauss, Macor, Ga.	Peaches	May 27	July 25
The following station closed on date indicated:				
TEXAS:	M. C. Gregory, Laredo, Texas	Onions	Apr. 5	May 14

NOTE: Supervisors are asked to send corrections of dates in above columns.

8c. IMPORTANT ITEMS ON ARKANSAS BERRY INSPECTIONS.

With a letter of May 5, G. W. Winfrey, Supervising Inspector at Van Buren, Ark., submitted a sample of the new form of short certificate, to be used in certifying express shipments of strawberries in that section. Its heading and general design is shown below:

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Arkansas State Plant Board

INSPECTION CERTIFICATE

This certificate is receivable in all courts of the United States as prima facie evidence of the truth of the statements therein contained.

Applicant ---------- Address ---------- Date

I certify that in compliance with the regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture governing the inspection of various products pursuant to the Act making appropriations for the United States Department of Agriculture, and the laws of the State of Arkansas, I inspected, on the date stated above, samples believed by me to be representative of the following lots of products, and that the quality and condition of said products as shown by said samples, on said date, were as stated below:

Product	Container		Inspection Point
Identifying Marks	No. Packages	Grade	Remarks

Fee:_____ Inspector:_____

Mr. Winfrey's letter of transmittal, dated May 5, follows:-

"I am enclosing sample form of the short certificate that we will use for inspection of express shipments. Impressions from the two stamps that will be used are shown on separate sheet. Dealers wanted a No. 2 grade and I asked the Plant Board to make this one for the berries. It is going to be rather difficult to get much identification for these lots; at times, perhaps not even the growers' initials. It is the intention of the buyers to buy on our inspection and I suspect there will be times when we won't know the name of the buyer. Some few growers take their berries around to various buyers to get the highest bid, and we may not know who buys them.

"As a matter of fact, I don't expect the express inspection to move along very smoothly. There are quite a few buyers in all the small towns, and some of them will not use our service and will even oppose it.

(continued over)

"As the stamp impression shows, we will not try to examine each crate; entirely too many men would be needed. The cost with just a sample inspection may run up to $7 a car, as the tonnage at several points is small. Possibly we won't average more than one car per man-day.

"The season was rather late opening. A few crates have come in this week, but not likely any carlots until Saturday or later.

"Eight associations in Washington and Benton counties have asked for inspection on berries, but they want their own inspectors used in their home towns. Some days ago I had a meeting with these parties at Fayetteville. Incidentally, they are affiliated with the Ozark Fruit Growers Association, which operates over a large part of Northwest Arkansas and Southwest Missouri and, I understand, is behind the movement for Government inspection. I told them at the meeting that I didn't think we would want the deal, unless the employment and use of inspectors was left in our hands. Nothing further has been done, though Mr. Becker is trying to get them to dispose of their inspectors."

9c. USE CARE IN SEALING ENVELOPES.

Attention is called to the fact that some of the offices, in sending in blue fee bills and letters of transmittal to Washington, are either getting too much moisture on the envelopes or are not sufficiently careful when sealing them. The enclosures often adhere to the flap and are partly torn or mutilated when removed. Please be careful in the future, when sealing these envelopes, as it is very important that the contents not be torn.

EDITOR'S NOTE: This item suggests that, here in Washington, we may not be sealing carefully enough the envelopes containing the weekly Division Letter. If any member of the staff ever finds the D.L. stuck fast to the envelope, or the envelope poorly sealed or badly torn, we shall appreciate being informed of the matter.

ROBERT BIER,
Supervising Inspector.

RECEIVING-POINT INSPECTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL, 1926.

Markets	Total Inspections	Total Same Month 1925	Inspections for Carriers	Declined for Lack of Time	Total Fees
Atlanta	70	61	3	0	$ 295.50
Baltimore	33	35	0	0	130.50
Boston	274	156	89	6	1127.00
Buffalo	95	71	62	0	361.50
Chicago	293	241	1	0	1464.50
Cincinnati	42	49	0	0	216.50
Cleveland	154	152	84	0	657.00
Columbus	26	34	0	0	101.50
Denver	24	18	0	0	99.50
Detroit	223	200	103	0	892.00
Duluth	96	-	0	0	385.00
Fort Worth	3	10	0	0	12.00
Harrisburg	4	2	2	0	17.00
Indianapolis	44	23	3	0	181.00
Jacksonville	1	0	0	0	4.00
Kansas City	72	71	16	0	293.00
Memphis	41	34	27	0	166.50
Milwaukee	42	50	21	0	172.00
Minneapolis	60	88	5	2	245.50
Newark	34	-	4	0	137.00
New Haven	56	47	4	0	262.50
New Orleans	90	51	45	0	355.00
New York	694	697	278	0	2807.00
Norfolk	22	12	2	0	92.00
Omaha	45	48	6	0	179.00
Philadelphia	161	150	93	0	654.00
Pittsburgh	165	160	72	0	692.50
Portland	28	21	9	0	117.00
St. Louis	106	68	45	0	408.00
Salt Lake City	4	3	0	0	16.00
San Diego	1	1	0	0	4.00
San Francisco	4	7	0	0	11.50
Washington	13	31	0	0	58.00
Wichita	23	-	4	0	95.50
Wilkes-Barre	21	9	14	1	91.50
TOTAL	3064	2600	992	9	$12,802.00
Los Angeles (report just received)	14	0	0	1	58.50
GRAND TOTALS:	3078	2600	992	10	$12,860.50

NOTE: This total of 3,078 inspections in April is the highest record ever made during that month. The highest previous total for April was 2,737 in 1924.

INSPECTIONS FOR THE NAVY AND MARINE CORPS DURING APRIL, 1926.

ALL FIGURES IN THESE COLUMNS REPRESENT POUNDS

SYMBOLS: N - NAVY M - MARINE CORPS	Fruits and Vegetables PASSED		Fruits and Vegetables REJECTED		TOTAL QUANTITY INSPECTED		"Cuts" Made to Comply with Specifications		Items Billed Short-weight	
STATIONS	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M
BOSTON	97141	3086	2741	0	99882	3086	45	0	0	0
NEW YORK	317347	74686	2144	472	319491	75158	118	0	0	0
NORFOLK	No supply ←		ships loaded		for Navy dur-		ing month of		April.	
PHILADELPHIA	125291	1802½	2224	283	127515	18307	317	10	0	0
SAN DIEGO	789957	71787	8297	11549	798254	83336	2706	184	0	0
SAN FRANCISCO	1266311	0	60000	0	1326311	0	0	0	0	0
SAN PEDRO	547375	0	5971	0	553346	0	3249	0	0	0
VALLEJO	169795	28192	9170	6092	178965	34284	417	0	0	0
TOTALS	3313217	195775	90547	18396	3403764	214171	6852	194	0	0

INSPECTIONS MADE FOR U. S. SHIPPING BOARD

NEW YORK	35439	1750	37209	0	0
NORFOLK	29764	1700	31464	50	0
TOTALS	65223	3450	68673	50	0

In addition to the above the New York office inspected the following:

	Vegetables	Fruits	Rejections
United States Lines	392,736	200,051	5,900
United American Lines	- -	39,102	1,125
Munson Line	48,849	16,100	1,675
American Diamond Line	5,403	1,981	430
American Merchant Line	7,243	3,605	215
American France Line	6,832	1,681	- -
American West & South African Line	5,209	- -	- -

The San Pedro office also inspected and passed the following for the Navy:
10,634 lbs. butter; 6,713 lbs. bread; and 405 lbs. cheese.

The Vallejo office also inspected and passed the following for the Navy: 32,395 lbs. bread and 30 lbs. rolls.

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Stillwell has conferred with market reporters and with the trade at Crystal City, Laredo, and San Antonio, Texas, this week, and probably will arrive at Fort Worth by Monday.

A. E. Prugh closes the Laredo field station this Saturday, and will proceed at once to El Centro, Calif., where he will cooperate with C. E.Schultz in issuing daily market reports on cantaloupes. The work at El Centro is fast becoming heavy, because of the numerous shipments of the early H-B melons from Imperial Valley. Miss Verna Schult, of the Los Angeles office, has been detailed temporarily to the El Centro office to assist Mr. Schultz until Mr. Prugh arrives.

H. W. Schneck, who was assisting with potato inspections in the Hastings section of Florida and later with tomato inspections at Palmetto, will arrive in Washington on Monday morning for a conference regarding work on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. Mr. Schneck will be in charge of the Eastern Shore inspection deal on berries and potatoes, and possibly other products, and also will obtain f.o.b. prices and other market information from shipping points. Headquarters will be at Pocomoke City,Md., and daily mimeographed market reports will be issued from that office until about August 1. Aaron Stambaugh, of the Washington staff, will accompany Mr. Schneck to Pocomoke City next week, and will handle the office work in connection with the news service.

K. W. Schaible, who has been helping with inspection work for the past few weeks in New York City, will report at Cape Charles, Va., next Monday, and will supervise the inspections of strawberries and cabbage at the southern end of the peninsula.

H. H. Henderson, of the Norfolk office, is handling shipping-point inspections of cabbage and potatoes from the territory around Norfolk, all of this Virginia work, of course, being under the general supervision of F. Earl Parsons, of Richmond.

T. R. Hall, formerly an inspector in Boston, is now en route to his new headquarters, in charge of market news work at St. Louis. From May 15 to 19, he plans to be in New York City, in order to familiarize himself with the work there. Mr. Hall will be in Washington from May 20 to 26 and in Cincinnati on the 28th and 29th, reaching St. Louis about June 1. Part of this intervening time will be spent on annual leave.

F. E. Hooper, of the New York inspection staff, is being transferred permanently to Boston, to handle the work formerly done by Mr. Hall. This change takes place on May 15.

Walter Kingsbury, of the Salt Lake City office, is on annual leave during the last half of May. He will visit several points in southern Utah. Market news reports will be resumed on a daily basis at Salt Lake City about June 1.

Whenever you notice something in the D.L. which might be improved, do tell the editor about it. He will appreciate your suggestions, for he is anxious to have the Letter kept to as high a standard as possible.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

J. Wm. Park is on five days' leave at his home at Fannettsburg, Pa., this week. About the middle of next week, he will proceed to Charleston, S.C., where he will issue market reports on potatoes during the period of heavy carlot movement. Mr. Park was in charge of the Charleston field station last spring, also.

M. S. Wiggins, formerly connected with our Market News Service and now with Chase and Company, at Sanford, Fla., was a visitor to Washington last week. O. D. Miller, formerly in charge of the New York office of the News Service and now associated with Steinhardt and Kelly, at Phoenix, Arizona, visited friends in the Washington office this week. Mrs. Miller and their young son also were here.

M. C. Gregory has left Laredo, Texas, where he was inspecting onions, and has gone to Eagle Lake, Texas, to handle an inspection deal on potatoes in the Eagle Lake - Wharton district, beginning about May 19.

In order to let J. E. Dickerson, of the Cincinnati office, attend a conference at Lafayette, Ind., this Thursday, P. T. Baden, of the Chicago staff, substituted in Cincinnati a few days. Mr. Dickerson conferred with State officials and others, regarding shipping-point inspection prospects in Indiana.

Please bear in mind that C. H. Behnke is now in Chicago. He formerly was at Wenatchee, Wash., supervising inspections in the Wenatchee district.

B. E. Shaffer arrived in Washington on Monday morning. He had been in southeastern States, in connection with standardization work. About May 25, Mr. Shaffer expects to leave for the Pacific Northwest, where he will make a study of the standardization of such products as cherries, prunes, cantaloupes and onions. This work may require at least two months' time.

H. A. Spilman was in Rochester, N.Y. over Thursday, attending a regional meeting of representatives of the American Veneer Package Association.

N. D. Sanborn advised from Monett, Mo., that he believes nearly 1,000 cars of strawberries will be inspected in that section, beginning about May 20.

-Robert Bier went to Charleston, S.C., over the week end, to confer with supervisors in southern States regarding arrangements for personnel in the spring inspection deals. O. G. Strauss, of the Orlando, Fla., office, and George E. Prince, Chief of the S. C. Division of Markets, at Aiken, attended this conference. On his way back to Washington, Mr. Bier conferred with A. E. Mercker, Supervising Inspector at Raleigh, N.C., and F. Earl Parsons, at Richmond, Va.

-G. B. Fiske, of the Washington staff, will be on annual leave until June 1. He starts his vacation next Monday.

-Advice from the Denver office indicates that 166 inspections were made at shipping points in Colorado during the two weeks ending April 24. This brings up the season total to 18,245 cars.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 7, NO. 21
May 21, 1926.
(Contents Confidential)

1a. GEORGIA PEACH PROSPECTS.

On May 15, the following information regarding Georgia peaches was released by V. C. Childs, Agricultural Statistician at Atlanta:

"From the present outlook, the total carlot movement of Georgia peaches this season probably will exceed the total for any year on record. Information received from leading growers in all parts of the State indicates a probable movement of about 14,200 cars, compared with 13,482 cars shipped in 1925. In 1924 about 13,504 cars were shipped; in 1923 about 8,701 cars; in 1922 about 7,370 cars, and in 1921 about 10,330 cars. A material increase in the number of trees of bearing age, particularly in north-central and western counties; heavier production on young trees that are bearing for the second or third year; and better size of fruit, are factors contributing to the probable increase in shipments over last year. The final outturn of the crop, of course, is dependent upon conditions that prevail from now until shipments are made, as it is impossible to determine the size of the crop with absolute accuracy at this time. In addition to straight carlot shipments, approximately 6% of the total commercial crop usually moves by express in small lots. Production of all varieties, with the possible exception of Elbertas, will exceed last year's figure. The season is a few days later than last season. First car of Mayflowers is expected to move about May 18 or 20."

A North Carolina bulletin states that the peach crop there will likely be equal to the 2,000 cars shipped last year.

2a. ASPARAGUS MARKETING IN MASSACHUSETTS.

"Asparagus Marketing Facts for Massachusetts Growers" is the title of a 50-page mimeographed report by W. E. Piper, of the State Division of Markets, at Boston. The report discusses the asparagus situation in the United States, and then the local situation in Massachusetts with respect to the growing and the marketing of this product. The Boston market particularly is discussed. Some very good charts show the usual shipping season for asparagus in the leading States and the total carlot movement for each of three years. The volume and value of Boston's receipts also are charted. Excerpts are included from our mimeographed summaries of the California and the Georgia asparagus deals. Receipts and prices of asparagus on the Boston market are shown by charts for three years; prices also are charted on the basis of grades or sizes of this product. The U.S. Grades for Asparagus are presented in the report, and a final chart shows the percentage of Boston's supply furnished by the State and by other States.

Needed copies of this pamphlet possibly can be obtained from W. A. Munson, Director, Division of Markets, State House, Boston, Mass.

3a. CONDITION OF MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT.

All offices are requested to make a careful examination of all their mechanical equipment and submit a comprehensive report concerning any mechine which needs to be repaired, overhauled or replaced, indicating the estimated cost for any repair or overhaul work. If it is found that available funds can be diverted for this purpose, we will take care of the most urgent cases this fiscal year. Typewriters cannot be exchanged until they have been in use three years.

4a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR MAY 15:

Page 309 - Special paragraphs on potatoes in the weekly review.
310 - Rain Hinders Texas Onion Movement, - by W. F. Cox.
311 - Florida Potato Movement Passes Peak, - by R. L. Sutton.
- Market News Station on Maryland East Shore.

5a. PRODUCTION AND CARRY-OVER OF CONTAINERS.

A very interesting 40-page pamphlet has been compiled by Mrs. Cecile Linn, under the direction of H. A. Spilman. It is entitled: "Production and Carry-Over of Fruit and Vegetable Containers for the Year 1925," and copies can be had on request to Mr. Spilman's office. Reports were received from a majority of manufacturers. Although some large manufacturers and many small ones ignored repeated requests for information, better cooperation was received this year than ever before, and it is believed that the figures are sufficiently complete to be indicative of actual conditions.

There is a separate tabulation for each kind of container, as follows:

Berry Boxes	Round Stave Baskets	Boxes
Till Baskets	Hampers	Crates
Climax Baskets	Market Baskets	Berry Crates

Tabulations are presented first for the United States as a whole and then for each of the 10 regions, or groups of States, commonly recognized by the American Veneer Package Association, including two western sections. The report contains a mass of figures of special interest to the package trade, and tells an important story regarding production and carry-over.

6a. REPORTS ON FOREIGN MARKETS.

The Foreign Marketing Section has issued the following special reports: F. S.:P-15, "Prune Prospects Favorable in Southwest France." F. S.:P-14, "Yugo-slavian Prune Outlook Satisfactory." "F.S.:O-29, "Egyptian Onion Shipments."

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF COOPERATION will hold its second summer session at the University of Minnesota, University Farm, St. Paul, from June 21 to July 17, 1926. The first session was held last year at the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia. Programs can be obtained from this Bureau.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. NEWS ABOUT THE JUDSONIA BERRY DEAL.

Writing from Judsonia, Ark., on May 12, W. G. Lensen gave the following information relative to the White County berry deal:-

"The Judsonia office was opened at a very opportune time. Warm weather over the week-end hastened ripening, and shipments, which had been ranging from one to seven cars a day from this district, jumped to 40 cars last Monday. Had warm weather continued, peak movement was looked for about May 17. However, rain and cool weather during the past two days will perhaps delay peak shipments until about the middle or latter part of next week. Aromas will be light this year and, after the Klondikes have moved, shipments will decrease rapidly. According to well-informed parties, the berries are the best that have been shipped from this section for a number of years, both as to quality and condition, and the fact that Arkansas berries brought top prices in a number of markets this week is evidence that this is true. A hard driving rain, accompanied by hail, swept Judsonia and Baldknob Tuesday afternoon, doing considerable damage. Early reports estimate the damage at 30% in the Baldknob area and 20% in the immediate vicinity of Judsonia, which, if correct, would reduce shipments for the entire district by approximately 15% for the season."

2b. TOMATO MOVEMENT FROM RIO GRANDE VALLEY, TEXAS.

J. D. Evers, in charge of the Brownsville field station, sent the following report under date of May 11:-

"The movement of tomatoes out of the Rio Grande Valley is now well under way, and daily shipments, including those made by express, have already reached high as 25 cars. The total movement has been estimated by most local shippers at 1,000 cars, depending upon favorable weather conditions. Heavy shipments will occur the last two weeks of May. On the first few cars, the stock was only ordinary, but present shipments are of generally good quality.

"The chief varieties being shipped are the June Pink, Globe, and Acme. Mr. Stillwell and myself, while in San Benito yesterday, had the opportunity of seeing some of the stock being graded. Quite a demand is being felt for 6's this season and many of the Globe variety are being packed in that style of container. Most of the tomatoes, however, are packed in the four-basket carrier, while some also are packed in lugs. First prices of straight cars have ranged $2.00-$2.25 for both greens and pinks in 4's, while a few sales of Globe variety in 6's have brought generally $5.00 for fancy count.

"As the bulk of the movement will have been shipped before June 1, I believe that the Market News Service at this point can be discontinued the latter part of the month. Shipments of tomatoes will continue well into June, but I have informed the shippers that the closing date could not be extended later than May 29."

EVERYBODY, PLEASE NOTE:- Next week's Division Letter will be late in reaching all offices outside of Washington, because of the holiday on May 31. Allow a reasonable time, before advising that D.L. has not been received.

3b. IMPERIAL VALLEY CANTALOUPE SEASON EARLY.

The following letter was written by C. E. Schultz, at El Centro, on May 14;

"The first car of Imperial Valley cantaloupes was shipped this year on April 30, which was one week ahead of last year and fully three weeks ahead of the normal season prior to 1925. By the middle of this month, total shipments will be over 1,000 cars, compared with less than 100 last year and nothing previously. The exceptionally early maturity of the crop is partially due to the heavy plantings of the new H-B variety and the large amount of brush-covered acreage, together with exceptionally early growing weather.

"The acreage planted this year exceeded all previous records and totaled close to 35,000 acres in cantaloupes and Honey Dews. Early predictions were for a carlot movement between 18,000 and 20,000 cars. At the present time, it does not seem likely that these figures will be reached, due to a serious disease which has entered the Imperial Valley and which promises to reduce the crop materially. There are wide variations regarding the seriousness of mildew in the cantaloupe fields this year. On some of the early fields it is probable that fully 50% of the crop will be lost, as a result of mildew. It is too early to make any definite predictions on later acreage. For the Valley as a whole, it is possible that at least a 25% reduction below the opening prospects may develop, according to present indications. This percentage may be increased or decreased according to future developments of the deal. No one is in a position to make a definite statement regarding this factor. Sprays or dustings of various kinds are being tried, with little effective results. Growers are at a loss to know what remedial measures to try next. Some fields have been damaged almost as much by sulphur burn from the dusting as from the disease.

"The first melons leaving the Valley were shipped by express and topped the market on their arrival in the East. Fairly good price levels were maintained, in spite of the fact that weather conditions were not as favorable as they might have been for cantaloupe consumption. Prices at shipping point have gradually declined as the volume of loading increased, but there have been no sharp breaks nor anything but the normal lowering of market prices which occurs at the beginning of each season. Most of the first shipments are being bought for delivered sales. Only a limited number of f.o.b. sales are taking place.

"Practically all of the shipments to date have originated in the northern end of the Valley and in a new section in the southwestern corner of the Valley. Other districts are just beginning to start loading. The deal is yet too young to record any particular developments excepting that the widespread mildew-damage is making the operators a little more optimistic on market conditions, although from the growing standpoint the curtailment may prove to be very serious."

4b. ELIZABETH CITY, N.C., 1925 POTATO DEAL.

Above is the title of another summary just distributed. The author is R. L. Sutton. The front cover of this report is illustrated with a map of the Elizabeth City potato district and the summary proper gives a detailed description of the territory. The usual statistical tables are included.

5b. LETTUCE AND STRAWBERRY SITUATION IN NORTH CAROLINA.

R. H. Lamb sent the following information from Wilmington, N.C., in a letter of May 13:-

"The lettuce season, thus far, has proved to be rather unprofitable to the majority of the North Carolina growers in this section. Dry weather has nearly ruined the crop. The concensus of opinion seems to be that the best of North Carolina lettuce now being moved is only fair in quality, compared with that of a normal season. The first estimates of tonnage were around 400 cars. Now, it is not expected that there will be over 275 cars, unless the weather changes and materially helps the late lettuce. On May 12, the total to date this year stands at 176 cars, compared with 478 cars the previous season, which represented last year over four-fifths of the entire crop.

"Due to some agitation by the Extension Service, the acreage of Iceberg was increased this season from approximately 10% to 20% of the lettuce acreage. It is estimated that the Romaine acreage also will run around 20% this season.

"The Wilmington Truck Growers Association, due to the unusual season, is packing but two brands,- the Tar Heel, which calls for U.S.No. 1 stock with 10% tolerance for defects, and a plain brand, which is U.S.No. 2. Stock shipped under these two brands is pooled, and for the very poorest stock the Association is using a XXX mark, which is not pooled, the growers receiving but actual returns, after the necessary expenses have been deducted. Last season the Association packed a Tar Heel fancy brand, in addition to the two enumerated above, but the condition and quality this year warranted dropping this pack.

"Monday was apparently the peak day in the strawberry movement, when 122 cars were shipped by freight and 3 by express. I have not as yet heard the figure at which the crop in all sections is placed, but it apparently will be lower than the first estimates, because of dry weather again. In the Chadbourn district this is substantiated, as the first estimates were 550 cars for that loading point and the last estimates that I heard were under 300. Wallace this season is considerably heavier than Chadbourn and, from local accounts, bids fair to be the principal strawberry center of North Carolina in the near future."

6b. REVIEW OF THE 1925 OREGON ONION DEAL.

On May 13, R. L. Ringer, of the Portland office, issued a comprehensive review of the 1925 Oregon onion deal. A map on the first page shows clearly the various producing sections within the State. The onion industry is said to be 75 years old in certain parts of Oregon. The 1925 acreage was the largest ever grown in the State. Plantings had been increased because of the generally successful season during 1924-25. Prices during the season just closed were not so good, and the returns to growers from the heavy plantings of 1925 were only about $265,000. Growers of onion sets also had a poor year. A graph in the summary shows the relation between the 1924-25 and the 1925-26 prices to growers. Mention is made of the wide distribution given onions from Oregon. Primary destinations are tabulated by months for the 678 cars shipped. Copies of this review doubtless can be obtained from the Portland office.

7b. DO EGYPTIAN ONIONS COMPETE WITH OLD OR NEW STOCK ON YOUR MARKET? (REPLY)

Most Egyptian onions are harvested from February to April, and reach the United States either shortly before the Texas crop comes on the market or immediately after Texas shipments begin moving. Most market stations, however, reporting Egyptian onions include them with their old stock. All market stations on which Egyptian onions have been sold during the past season are asked to write Washington, answering the following questions:

Do dealers on your market consider Egyptian onions in the same class with old stock ? or with new stock ? or are they placed in a class by themselves? What are the reasons for this classification?

8b. ORDERS FOR MIMEOGRAPH SUPPLIES REDUCED.

The requisitions recently received from branch offices covering mimeograph supplies needed for their work through September have been cut, in many cases, because of shortage of funds. We have endeavored to provide sufficient quantities to cover the work well into September, but have not allowed as great leeway as heretofore. Soon after the first of July, branch offices should check up again on their stock and place requisitions for additional quantities. Branch offices will receive notice of the actual quantities ordered, when they receive copies of the orders which are being placed. These changes should be taken into consideration in making up the monthly supply reports for June 1.

9b. BRIEF NOTES ON VARIOUS DEALS:

- George E Prince, at Aiken, S. C., sent the following report in a letter of May 15: "The Blackville-Barnwell district of this State expects to move around 500 to 550 cars of cucumbers this season, depending on weather conditions between now and harvesting time. The movement usually gets under way about May 20 or 25, but the season is late this year and carlot movement is not expected to begin until June 1 or a little after."

- "Weather is still good and quality of the fruit fine, though some berries are small," reports W. H. Mosier, in a letter from Hammond, La. He states that total Louisiana strawberry sales for the season will probably exceed $5,500,000.

- On May 16, most of the local estimates indicated 1,300 to 1,500 cars of onions remaining to be shipped from Texas, according to information just received from W. F. Cox, at Crystal City. This probably means that shipments will continue until early June. Mr. Cox will close the field station about May 25.

- R. H. Shoemaker wired from Grand Rapids, Mich., that probably 800 cars of potatoes still will be shipped from Michigan, with some movement in the month of June.

10b. REPORTS DISCONTINUED ON ASPARAGUS AND CABBAGE.

Effective May 13, the mimeographed market reports on Asparagus, issued at Washington, were discontinued for this season. Cabbage reports are being stopped today, May 21.

B. C. BOREE,
Marketing Specialist.

See Par. 11b on Page 300

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

Stations	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably will close
ROCHESTER, N. Y. ** 419 Triangle Bldg.	837	H. S. Duncan A. L. Thomas	Apples Pears* Cabbage* Onions* Peaches* Celery* Potatoes Grapes * Carrots*	Sept. 4 Sept. 4 Sept. 4 Sept. 14 Sept. 14 Sept. 16 Sept. 16 Sept. 21 Sept. 23	May 29 Oct. 31* Mar. 12* May 1* Oct. 3* Jan. 23* May 29 Oct. 31* May 15*
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. 419 Federal Bldg. MAIL: P.O. Box 86	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Apples* Potatoes Onions*	Oct. 7 Oct. 7 Oct. 7	Nov. 24* May 26 Mar. 20*
BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS.** Chamber of Commerce	931	J. D. Evers	Cabbage* Beets* Carrots* Potatoes Stg.Beans* Tomatoes	Feb. 1 Feb. 1 Feb. 1 Mar. 29 Apr. 1 May 1	May 8* May 8* May 11* May 22 May 1* May 29
MOBILE, ALA.** Custom House	924	H.E. Rutland	Cabbage * Potatoes	Apr. 19 May 18	May 19* June 12
HASTINGS, FLA.** Bowles Bldg.	851	R.L. Sutton	Potatoes	Apr. 22	May 22 (?)
CRYSTAL CITY, TEXAS.** Depot	867	W. F. Cox	Onions	Apr. 22	May 25
WILMINGTON, N.C. ** 102 Custom House	805	R. H. Lamb	Berries Lettuce Potatoes Stg.Beans Cucumbers	May 1 May 6 June 1 June 10 June 15	June 5 June 5 June 30 June 30 July 3
JUDSONIA, ARK. Bank of Judsonia Bldg.	856	W. G. Lensen	Berries	May 10	May 29
EL CENTRO, CALIF. Barbara North Hotel	808	C. E. Schultz A. E. Prugh	Cants.	May 11	July 10
POCOMOKE CITY, MD.** Peninsula Prod. Exch.	878	H. W. Schneck A. Stambaugh	Berries Potatoes	May 20 June 15	June 15 July 31
MONETT, MO.	857	W. H. Mosier	Berries	May 25	June 15
CHARLESTON, S. C.	858	J. W. Park	Potatoes	May 24	June 19

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

LEESBURG, or OCALA, FLA.**	832	R. L. Sutton	Tomatoes Cucumbers W-melons	May 26 May 26 May 26	June 19 June 12 June 26
MACON, GA.**	833	R. H. Shoemaker	Peaches	June 1	July 24
CRYSTAL SPRINGS, MISS.	809	W.G. Lensen	Tomatoes	June 3	June 30
JACKSONVILLE, TEXAS.	811	W. F. Cox	Tomatoes	June 3	June 30
ELIZABETH CITY, N.C.	810	J. D. Evers	Potatoes	June 7	June 30

The following station closes on date indicated:

HAMMOND, LA. P.O. Bldg.	802	W. H. Mosier	Berries	Mar. 29	May 22

**State cooperating. *Reports discontinued.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. STRAWBERRY INSPECTION PLANS IN MISSOURI.

The following interesting report was rendered by N. D. Sanborn, from Monett, Mo., on May 15:-

"The strawberry work in Missouri is lining up very nicely, and there will be a decided increase in the number of cars which we will inspect here this season. At present it seems that we will easily inspect at least 1,000 cars and, if the season proves at all favorable, this figure may prove somewhat conservative. We will be working with some 30 or more associations, which will require the service of about 35 local inspectors.

We are lining up inspectors for the different places as rapidly as possible and will have completed this work within the next few days. Immediately preceding the starting of the shipping season, training classes will be arranged at three or four convenient places throughout the district, where the local inspectors can be called together to receive instructions regarding the Federal phase of inspection work. As a whole, I believe we are securing very desirable men, who have the interest of the inspection service at heart and will do everything possible to advance this work.

"The prospects are favorable for a very good berry crop. The fields are showing a heavy bloom and, with sufficient moisture, conditions seem favorable for an excellent crop. With the continued cool weather we are having at present, there likely will not be any carlot shipments until close to the 25th of the month.

"I am working out a special form of inspectors' notes for the strawberry work. Since it appears that our work will be confined largely to the Ozark Fruit Growers Association, there is a great deal of information which can be printed in the notes which will lessen the amount of writing the inspector will have to do. I am also working out a strawberry inspection circular, to take the place of the Part 2 of the shipping-point handbook. As soon as I have a sample of these forms typed, I will send them to you for your suggestion and criticism.

"In addition to the strawberry work, there seems to be considerable demand in this district for inspection of the prospective onion crop. There also has been some mention of desiring inspection of grapes from this district. The tomato canning people have inquired of the possibility of securing Federal inspection service to assist them in securing a better quality of cannery tomatoes. It seems that there is a very promising field here for work of this kind."

2c. IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON TOMATO INSPECTIONS.

In a recent letter, O. G. Strauss, of the Orlando office, advised:

"We are sending a list of cars of tomatoes inspected at Palmetto to the following offices: Washington, New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Atlanta, Boston, Cincinnati, Cleveland, St. Louis, Baltimore, Kansas City, Detroit and Indianapolis.

"This list contains the car number, the number of growers' lots contained in the car, and the numbers from which our inspection is made. We have had as high as 35 different lots in one car, and 20 to 30 are not unusual. Because of this fact, I believe receiving-point inspectors should specify the lots on which their inspection is made."

The next seven items are from California Inspectors' Notes, May 14, 1926:

3c. COACHELLA BERMUDAS MEET GRADE WITH DIFFICULTY.

"Coachella onion growers generally are having considerable difficulty in meeting requirements of U.S. No. 1 grade with their early onions," writes V. T. Harmon, in charge of the inspection work there on May 10th. The Crystal Wax variety, which constitutes a large proportion of the early crop, seems to show considerable green discoloration from sunburn, which is barred from U.S. No. 1 grade. For example, in one 20-acre field, which is turning out close to 600 crates of whites to the acre, approximately 20% of the stock is out of grade on account of this green discoloration. Under present conditions, it does not pay to attempt to cull out the sunburned stock and this class of stuff is loaded in what is called a "commercial car." The No. 2's - onions which are misshapen or contain seed stems, and other defects - are generally loaded in separate cars, as has been done in the past. Splits and seed stems are much more in evidence this year than last season, probably due to the early and late rains during the growing period. It is hoped that the Yellow Bermudas, which mature later than the whites, will prove to be of better quality and that a greater percentage of No. 1's may be shipped.

"Inspections have been totaling from 20 to 24 cars a day and 141 cars had been inspected up to and including May 10, compared with 117 to this date last year. Over 160 cars had been shipped by May 10, which also is considerably more than at the same time last year."

4c. CANTALOUPE YIELD CUT BY MILDEW.

A total of 38 freight and 25 express cars of cantaloupes left Imperial Valley yesterday," writes Sam Preston under date of May 10. "This brings the total up to 325 cars to date this season. Forecasts for the deal this year are almost impossible at this time. The total acreage is estimated about 35,000. Of this, some 20,000 acres are covered, including about 4,000 that were brushed in addition to the covers.

"The mildew has made its appearance, particularly in the Westmoreland section, again this year but seemingly on a larger and more serious scale that last season. Last year the damage was estimated at 25% and this season it is felt that 30% losses have resulted so far, which are very apt to increase considerably during the next four weeks. Some of the shippers in Westmoreland figure they will be lucky if they are able to harvest the crown set. If this condition spreads to some of the other districts, it will be difficult to make calculations for the organization of our inspection force to handle the deal. Under favorable conditions, the acreage planted this year should produce at least 16,500 cars and it would be possible to ship 18,000. If the mildew condition continues to develop, it is impossible to say what reductions may result. A few radical pessimists are offering bets that the total will not reach 13,000 cars."

5c. STOCKTON TO SHIP POTATOES THIS WEEK.

A letter from a Stockton potato firm says the first car of potatoes is expected to leave there Monday, May 17. The shippers are requesting tuber-moth inspections, but, due to the early appearance of the moth this season, it is doubtful if it will be possible to issue certificates.

6c. TRUCK CROP REPORTS IN CALIFORNIA.

Mr. Allewelt, of the Sacramento office, has given his approval of the following plan, as proposed by E. E. Kaufman under date of May 10:-

Dear. Mr. Allewelt:

The California Cooperative Crop Reporting Service is inaugurating a special service on truck crops. It is planned to issue reports about the 5th and 20th of each month, embracing acreage, condition, price and other items of general interest to truck crop growers.

Schedules of inquiry covering all truck crops will be sent to a list of reporters to be returned about the 1st and 15th of each month. I believe that the shipping-point inspectors would be one of our most valuable aids in reporting the condition of truck crops in the areas where they are operating. I would, therefore, like to consider each of your shipping-point inspectors a potential truck crop reporter. Instructions as to the filling out and returning of the schedule are made a part of the schedule itself. Comments as to the condition of growth and development, injury from insect pests and plant diseases, as well as comments on f.o.b. prices in carlots, and style of-package are always helpful and can be made on the back of the schedule.

I trust you will not feel that we are imposing upon your inspectors in asking this service twice a month, which I am certain will be appreciated.

Yours very truly,
(Signed) E.E. Kaufman,
Agricultural Statistician.

7c. NEW INSECT AFFECTING VEGETABLES AND TRUCK CROPS.

The discovery of a new insect pest in California, known as the Australian Tomato Weevil, has recently been made by the Horticultural Commissioners of Santa Clara and San Mateo counties, working with entomologists of the California Department of Agriculture. The first report of its presence came this spring, when truck gardeners found a strange grub attacking carrots. It has been noted to cause considerable damage to truck and vegetable crops in other parts of the world.

The larva is a small wormlike grub, usually found working in the crowns of various vegetables, such as carrots and turnips. The adult is a gray snoutbeetle, or weevil, about 3/8 of an inch in length, feeding principally at night on the stems of potato, tomato and other vegetables, and hiding under clods in the day-time.

8c. INTERESTING PEACH BULLETIN.

The California Agricultural Extension Service has issued a most complete and interesting bulletin - Circular No. 1 - "Peaches." Very complete data and graphs are given, showing the trends of market prices and production, not only in all the counties in California, but in all the producing sections of the United States. Considerable data also are given, relative to dried and canned peaches and to the foreign market and relations to these commodities. Copies doubtless can be obtained from the Agricultural Extension Division, University of California, Berkeley, California.

9c. SHAFTER SPUDS MOVING.

Potato shipping at Shafter started somewhat sooner than was generally expected, and requests were made for tuber-moth inspection May 12. Frank Powell has moved from San Francisco to take charge of the certification.

10c. NOTES ON THE PALMETTO TOMATO DEAL.

In a letter of May 16, from Palmetto, Fla., J.C. Townsend, Jr., advised as follows: "I would guess that we will be here about three weeks more. It probably will be around the 5th of June before things will clean up. Peak of the movement of tomatoes will be this coming week, May 17 to 22, with downward movement then; fairly heavy from May 22 to 29, and finishing the next week."

11c. BERRY INSPECTIONS IN EASTERN TENNESSEE.

On May 17, J. A. Marks wrote as follows from Chattanooga, Tenn., regarding the strawberry inspection deal in that territory:

"The first car rolled from Sale Creek on May 10, but the Exchange got out only five cars last week. The No. 1's which are packed under the 'Signal Mountain Brand,' brought $5.75 to $6.25 per crate. Cash buyers were paying around $4.50 most of the time and dropped to $4.00 the last of the week. Do not believe the Exchange has received less than $5.00 for unlabeled or sedond-grade stock.

"We had a couple of fine rains the last of the week; so the crop may not be vefy far short of last year, after all. With reasonably good weather, the quality should be fine, and I do not look for any quantity of sandy stock, though it showed up in some lots after the rain. From now on, excepting the second-grade berries, all stock we inspect will carry the 'Signal Mountain' bel and bear the name of the local association, as well as the East Tennessee Strawberry Growers' Exchange. Heaviest shipments will come between the 20th and 31st of May, with Klondikes and Aromas overlapping more than usual."

12c. SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTIONS IN OHIO.

During March a few cars of onions still were being inspected in Ohio, Richard Faxon, Chief of the Division of Plant Industry, State Dept. of Agriculture, rendered the following report of total inspections (227) the past season:

1925-26	Peaches	Apples	Onions	Potatoes
August	9	-	-	-
September	69	5	6	-
October	15	16	10	1
November	-	-	-	-
December	-	-	1	-
January	-	-	49	1
February	-	-	31	-
March	--	-	14	-
TOTALS	93	21	111	2

13c. OLD-CROP PEANUTS.

The Bureau has been advised that some old-crop peanuts have been carried over. Such peanuts are darker in color than new stock. In describing peanuts, such terms as "apparently old stock" should not be used, but the stock should be described in terms of color, as "dark reddish brown." Although the dark color indicates old crop, the inspector in the market has no way of actually knowning that this is a fact.

14c. ADD DATE TO GRAPE GRADES.

After the revised Grades for American (Eastern Type) Bunch Grapes were mailed last week, it was discovered that no date appeared at the bottom of the grades. All inspectors should please insert "May 12, 1926" at the end of these grape grades.

ROBERT BIER,
Supervising Inspector.

(continued from Page 294)

11b. SOUTHEASTERN WATERMELON DEAL SUMMARIZED.

One of the summaries issued this week is the Southeastern Watermelon Deal, Season of 1925, by W. H. Mosier. The author gives a brief history of the watermelon in his introductory paragraphs; discusses the United States situation last season and the peculiarities of the melon deal in Florida, Georgia, South Carolina and Alabama. Loading rules of one of the large shipping organizations are given in this summary, and detailed statistics are presented for each of the southeastern States.

B.C.B.

TEMPORARY HEADQUARTERS OF EASTERN AND SOUTHERN SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION DEALS

State	Federal Supervisor	Products	Approx. date of Opening	Closing
FLORIDA :	O. G. Strauss, Box 188, Orlando, Fla.	Citrus Fruit	Oct. 1	May 25
	G. R. Warren, Hastings, Fla.	Potatoes	Apr. 20	June 1
	J.C. Townsend, Jr., Box 629, Palmetto, Fla.	Tomatoes	Apr. 26	June 5
TEXAS :	C. D. Shirley, Harlingen, Texas	Vegetables	Jan. 1	June 15
	H. T. Longino, Carrizo Springs, Texas	Onions	Apr. 10	May 26
ARKANSAS :	G. W. Winfrey, Van Buren, Ark.	Berries	May 3	June 5
MISSISSIPPI:	C. R. Merton, Box 608, Baton Rouge, La.	Mississippi Peas, etc.	May 3	June 26
TENNESSEE :	R. C. Lindstrom, c/o Farm Bureau, Jackson, Tenn.	Berries	May 7	May 29
	J. A. Marks, County Court House, Chattanooga, Tenn.	Berries	May 10	May 29
VIRGINIA :	K. W. Schaible, Cape Charles, Va.	Berries Cabbage	May 17 May 20	June 12 June 12
MISSOURI :	N. D. Sanborn, Monett, Mo.	Berries	May 20	June 19
MARYLAND :	H. W. Schneck, Pocomoke City, Md.	Berries Potatoes	May 20 June 15	June 19 July 31

The following station probably will open about the date indicated:

GEORGIA:	O. G. Strauss, Macon, Ga.	Peaches	May 27	July 25

NOTE: Supervisors are asked to send corrections of dates in above columns.

M. C. Gregory temporarily in Fort Worth office.

OFFICE NOTES:

Robert G. Hill, a former employee of this Bureau but for the last five years on the staff of B.P.I., is being transferred to Mr. Samson's project, effective June 1. Mr. Hill was a member of the technical staff in the project known as Preservation of Fruits and Vegetables in Transit and Storage, but was transferred to B.P. I. when that work was taken over by Plant Industry about five years ago. He has made an extensive study of sweet-potato storage problems, and is author or joint author of bulletins on the following subjects: "Transportation of Citrus Fruit from Porto Rico." "The Efficiency of a Short-Type Regrigerator Car." "The Efficiency of a Divided Wire Basket Bunker in Refrigerator Cars." Mr. Hill will take up the duties formerly handled by E. E. Conklin, Jr., and will devote his time to research work in grading, standardization and methods of sale, and may make detailed surveys of methods of handling, marketing and financing crops from typical shipping areas. Mr. Hill's legal residence is North Carolina, and his title in our Bureau will be Marketing Specialist.

Edwin Smith is conferring with growers and shippers of fruit in various parts of California this week. By Monday, May 24, he expects to reach Medford, Oregon. On the 25th he will be at Corvallis, the 26th at Portland, and the 27th at Hood River. From May 28 to 30, Mr. Smith plans to be at Seattle, Washington. He reports that the precautionary measures being taken in California against excessive arsenical spray residue on fruit will no doubt be effective.

Robert W. Davis, of Mr. Spilman's section, will leave on Saturday for points in the Middle West, to make a study of the packaging of such products as asparagus, berries, cabbage, cantaloupes, tomatoes and peaches. He will proceed first to Paducah, Ky., and then will visit principal shipping points in States throughout the Mississippi Valley. The trip may take him into northeastern Texas, from which section he will return via the southern route through Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia, probably reaching Washington again by the middle of July. Mr. Davis expects to stop at a number of the field stations of the Market News Service and may also confer with representatives in some of the cities en route. Package factories will be visited in connection with the enforcement of the Standard Container Act.

B. E. Shaffer will leave Washington somewhat earlier than expected on his investigational trip to the Northwest. He plans now to leave this Friday afternoon for Chicago, where he will confer with inspectors on that market. From Chicago he will go directly to points in Oregon and Washington, to conduct his studies of grading and packing during the next two months.

Frank M. Lyle, formerly a member of our inspection staff but recently an Associate Professor of Horticulture at Texas A. & M. College, is being reinstated on June 1, and for the present will be in charge of the New Orleans office.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

J. E. Dickerson, of the Cincinnati inspection office, expects to start his annual leave about the middle of next week, spending his vacation at points in the West. Shortly after his return, Mr. Dickerson will inaugurate shipping-point inspection on early apples and other products in southern Indiana, and later he will supervise the onion inspection deal in northern Indiana.

W. E. Leigh, of the Chicago staff, will be placed temporarily in charge of inspection work in the Cincinnati market, during Mr. Dickerson's absence the next few months. Mr. Leigh will arrive in Cincinnati about May 24.

The potato inspection deal at Eagle Lake, Texas, did not materialize after all. M. C. Gregory, who was scheduled to handle that work, has now gone to Fort Worth, until next field assignment. There is some possibility of an onion inspection deal in Collin County, North Texas, and if arrangements are consummated Mr. Gregory may supervise that work.

J. J. Gardner, of the Pittsburgh office, has gone on a short trip to Charleston, W. Va., for conference with Commissioner of Agriculture John W. Smith, regarding a possible potato inspection deal in West Virginia this season. Production of potatoes is increasing materially in the vicinity of Hinton, Parkersburg, and Elkins, and growers feel the need of help in the proper grading and packing of their stock.

En route from Texas to California, Mr. Stillwell is stopping at State College, New Mexico, and at Phoenix, Arizona, for conferences. He expects to reach El Centro, Calif., by Sunday, and, after some time there, will go to the Los Angeles office.

Mr. Robb was at Los Angeles on Monday and Tuesday of this week. He has now proceeded North and expects to stop at Sacramento, Calif.; Portland, Oregon, and Boise, Idaho, as well as other points in the Northwest during the next week.

Mr. Samson was at southern California points the early part of this week, and visited lemon producing sections in company with Edwin Smith. He returned to Sacramento, and by this Saturday evening will be leaving for Grand Junction, Colo. Possibly about a week will be spent in Colorado, visiting various shipping points with E. F. McKune, the Federal Supervising Inspector.

T. R. Hall reached the Washington office yesterday morning, en route to his new assignment at St. Louis. He will be around Washington about a week.

A rush of inspection work in Pittsburgh this week made it necessary to send W. J. Bertush, of the Chicago staff, to Pittsburgh to assist.

Last week's Division Letter was in error in stating that P. T. Baden, of the Chicago office, had gone to Cincinnati, to substitute for J. E. Dickerson a few days. Mr. Dickerson found that he would not need a substitute.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

R. C. Butner, Regional Supervisor at Chicago, spent yesterday in Milwaukee, conferring with Inspector H. A. Arenz.

After spending a few days in the Washington office, H. W. Schneck proceeded to Pocomoke City, Md., to open the field station there for market news and inspection work. Offices will be in the Peninsula Produce Exchange Bldg.

F. A. Powell's address, while handling potato inspections in the Shafter district of California, will be c/o County Horticultural Commissioner, at Bakersfield, Calif.

Kenneth Hankinson, of the New Jersey Bureau of Markets, has resigned to accept a position with H. B. Macklin, commission merchant in New York City. Mr. Hankinson has given special attention to standardization and inspection work in the State of New Jersey, cooperating closely with our Fruit and Vegetable Division, particularly in the field service. His resignation is noted with regret, and our best wishes go with him.

Wendell C. Calhoun, of the Chicago market news office, has been temporarily detailed to Denver, to take over the market reporting work in that city when John D. Snow leaves at the end of this month. He will be in charge at Denver, until the vacancy can be permanently filled.

After closing the Hammond, La., field station this Saturday, W. H. Mosier will proceed at once to Monett, Mo., where he will issue market reports on strawberries.

PLEASE NOTE that the Buffalo office has been moved from Room 240 to Room 230 in the Federal Building. Address mail, etc., to Room 230 hereafter, and make this change on the Inspectors' Address List.

MONDAY, May 31, will be observed as a holiday in all offices, because Memorial Day, May 30, happens to fall on Sunday this year. On Tuesday, June 1, all market reporters should be sure to include complete arrivals since the preceding Saturday.

J. W. Park has now proceeded to Charleston, S. C., and will open the field station on potatoes early next week.

H. A. Spilman and R. W. Davis are joint authors of an article in the May issue of "Barrel and Box." The title of the article is "Interchangeability of Container Parts in the Southeast," and the story is excellently illustrated with half-tone cuts of packages and the various parts of fruit and vegetable containers. Half-tone portraits of the authors also accompany the article.

Word was received a few minutes before this page was mimeographed that the strawberry market reports at Judsonia, Ark., will be discontinued this Saturday or on Monday, as the deal is about finished in White County. The next assignment of W. G. Lensen will be Elizabeth City, N. C., field station.

R. C. Lindstrom also wired from Jackson, Tenn., that he would finish berry inspections there today, and return to the Chicago office immediately.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 7, NO. 22
May 28, 1926.
(Contents Confidential)

1a. ACTION DEFERRED ON STANDARD TRADING RULES.

About two weeks ago, just as the order for printing of formal contracts was ready to send to the Printing Office, Senator Ferris introduced the following resolution in the Senate. It is known as S. Res. 223, and was published in the Congressional Record for May 14:

Proposed Registration and Licensing of Vegetable Industry.

Whereas allegations have been made that the Department of Agriculture is about to put into effect a plan of registration and license for the fruit and vegetable industry; and

Whereas it is alleged that said proposal is without lawful authority in that Congress has enacted no legislation authorizing or permitting such action by the Department of Agriculture; and

Whereas it is alleged that said proposal, if made effective, will constitute the Department of Agriculture a regulating and controlling agency of the Federal Government to control, regulate, and supervise the business operations of this private industry; and

Whereas it is alleged that a large number of those engaged in said industry, particularly growers and shippers of fruits and vegetables, and numerous growing and shipping organizations are opposed to said proposal of the Department of Agriculture; and

Whereas it is alleged that although those opposed to said proposal have filed protests with the Department of Agriculture directly, and through the Senators and Representatives of their respective States, requesting an opportunity to present their objections to the proposal and be heard thereon, the department has refused to give any heed to such protests, or to give those objecting and protesting an opportunity to be heard; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry of the Senate is hereby authorized and empowered to inquire into said plan and proposal of the Department of Agriculture and all the allegations referred to herein pertaining thereto; to require the department to furnish any and all information or data regarding said proposal, together with all steps taken in relation thereto, and to conduct hearings at which all interested parties may have full and equal opportunity to be heard; be it further

Resolved, That, if this resolution be adopted, the Secretary of Agriculture is directed to hold in abeyance the said plan of the department proposing to effect the registration and licensing of the fruit and vegetable industry of the United States.

No action was taken on the resolution, except to refer it to the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry. Until this committee has had opportunity to indicate its wishes in the matter, the Secretary has agreed that nothing further be done toward putting the plan into actual operation. We are still receiving letters, expressing intention to sign the agreement, and are sending copies of Service and Regulatory Announcement No. 97 to all who ask for it.

WELLS A. SHERMAN,
Specialist in Charge,
Fruit and Vegetable Division.

2a. ONION SITUATION IN COLLIN COUNTY, TEXAS.

On May 18, Mr. Stillwell and Mr. Googe went from Fort Worth to McKinney and other points in Collin County, Texas, to look into the onion situation. It will be remembered that, in the D. L. for April 23 (Par. 10b), Mr. Googe had rendered a report on this crop, and it is interesting to note how closely that report agrees with the more recent one and in what respects the situation has changed.

Mr. Googe's information was to the effect that onion plantings in Collin County this season were as follows: 1,400 acres of Yellow Bermudas, 1,200 acres of Crystal Wax, and 2,000 acres of Prizetakers. Shipments last season of the respective varieties were 10 cars, 55 cars and 160 cars, or a total of 225 cars. In April, it was estimated that this year's shipments would be 300 cars of Yellow Bermudas, 240 cars of Crystal Wax, and 250 cars of Prizetakers, making a probable total of 790 cars.

Mr. Stillwell (like Mr. Googe) advises that the onion acreage in Collin and adjoining counties is considerably increased over last year. The Secretary of the McKinney Chamber of Commerce, stated that 25 carloads of onion plants had been shipped into Collin County. As each carload plants about 100 acres, this would mean 2,500 acres of Bermuda-type onions. It also appeared that about 2,000 acres of Prizetakers are being grown from seed, although many of the farmers claim that this figure is too high. Mr. Stillwell and Mr. Googe finally came to the conclusion that the Bermuda plantings must be around 2,500 acres and the Prizetaker acreage about 1,500 although scattered plantings may make the acreage of Prizetakers more nearly 2,000. Mr. Stillwell further says:-

"It is probable that the quality of the crop will not be as good as last year. Seed stems are already developing in some fields, and in one field fully 25% would have been classed as doubles or splits. We were told that there are about 400 or 500 acres near Farmersville, where conditions are fully as bad, due apparently to a poor lot of onion plants which were used for setting out. Other crops looked fine. Rain has interfered with proper cultivation and cold weather has retarded the crop to some extent. It is thought that only a few onions will move earlier than June 15. The Bermuda crop will clean up in about three weeks after shipments begin in heavy volume. Shipments of Prizetakers are not expected to begin until about July 15, which means that there will be a break or lull in shipments between the two varieties.

"If our idea of 4,000 acres proves to be correct and if the yield runs as high as 100 bushels per acre, 800 carloads will be grown. It is not improbable, however, that the yield will be less than 100 bushels, and, as a considerable quantity will be marketed locally by truck or in l.c.l. lots, it is my guess that carload shipments will be around 500 or 600 cars for the entire crop. Bermuda onions in this section are planted in rows 36 inches apart and cotton is interplanted at the time of the last cultivation. The rows in South Texas are only 12 inches apart. Mr. Googe likely will issue a special onion report from Fort Worth for the benefit of the Collin County interests." (Editor's Note: This difference of distance between the rows, as mentioned above, explains why these acreage figures and those issued by the Division of Crop Estimates are not the same. Crop Estimates' figures are reduced to a basis of rows 12 inches apart.)

3a. THE PEACH SURVEY IN GEORGIA.

"Findings of the Peach Survey in Georgia" is the title of speech by M.R. Cooper, of the Division of Farm Management and Costs, copies of which are now available in mimeographed form from our Division of Information. This speech calls attention to the outstanding developments in the Georgia peach industry. It was delivered by Mr. Cooper at the Nineteenth Annual Farmers' Week, at Georgia State Agricultural College, early this year.

4a. MASSACHUSETTS APPLE INDUSTRY STUDIED.

Bulletin No. 228, of the Massachusetts Agricultural Experiment Station, at Amherst, is entitled: "An Economic Study of the Massachusetts Apple Industry" This comprehensive report covers orchards, the number of trees, production, principal varieties, grading, prices, methods of sale, distribution, etc., and gives detailed statistics for each county in the State. It is illustrated by a number of good charts. Copies can be obtained from Amherst, Mass.

5a. GROWING MUSHROOMS IN SOUTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA.

The growing of mushrooms is a thriving industry in Chester County, southeastern Pennsylvania. Many of the growers are Italians, and a good price is obtained on shipments, which go chiefly to big eastern markets, - New York and Philadelphia.

A West Chester, Pa., dispatch to the press states that a certificate of incorporation has been granted the "Mushroom Growers' Cooperative Association of Pennsylvania." The main offices of the corporation will be located at Kennett Square, and for a time at least its business will concern largely the affairs of Chester County mushroom growers.

6a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR MAY 22:

Page 325 - Special paragraphs on cantaloupes in the weekly review.
" 326 - North Carolina Lettuce Crop Short, - by R. H. Lamb.
" 327 - Utah Celery Being Featured,- by Walter Kingsbury.
- Apple crop in Tasmania. (filler)
" 332 - Additional Stations of Market News Service.
" 336 - Prune Outlook Satisfactory in France and Yugoslavia.
- Heavy Egyptian Onion Shipments.

7a. FOREIGN NEWS ON VARIOUS CROPS.

The Foreign Marketing Section has issued the following reports: F.S.:O-30, "Spanish Onion Prospects." "Egyptian Onion Shipments." F. S.: F-24, "French Fruit Crops Damaged." "Sicilian Lemon Prospects." "Valencia Raisin Prospects." F. S.:A-52, "Apple and Pear Competition in Northern European Markets," by Edwin Smith.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. WHITE COUNTY BERRY DEAL CLOSED EARLY.

In a letter of May 19, from Judsonia, Ark., Mr. Lenson advised as follows concerning the early closing of the berry deal in White County:-

"It is the opinion of well-informed factors in the deal here that this week will practically clean up the Klondikes, and, as Aromas are very light, it would seem that the office could be closed not later than next Monday or Tuesday, May 24 or 25. Of an estimated movement of 400 cars for this district, - this estimate later being reduced by about 30 cars, due to hail injury, - approximately 350 cars will have moved by Saturday night, providing the weather remains favorable. Quality of the berries has been deteriorating, and the general run is now small to medium size.

"While two or three of the buyers expect to remain in this district for another two weeks, cleaning up odds and ends, the others anticipate moving over into the Monett territory the latter part of this week. In general the season has not been very favorable for the buyer, especially the small buyer, for prices have been high and the small man sat back and let the other fellow take the chance. Peak movement came Monday, May 17, and, although the price dropped 75¢ per crate, many cars rolled unsold."

2b. BRIEF NOTES ON VARIOUS DEALS.

- On closing the Crystal City, Texas, office this week, W. F. Cox wired that most local estimates indicated from 450 to 500 cars of onions left for shipment.

- A. E. Mercker wrote in a letter of May 22:- "We are hoping to have a big potato season in North Carolina, and trust that our hopes will not be blasted. The weather throughout the State has been exceptionally dry, and it now looks as if we will ship 4,500 carloads of potatoes instead of 7,000 or 8,000. We have not had any rain to amount to anything for the last eight weeks."

3b. "MARKETING TALKS FOR HOUSEWIVES" COMMENDED.

J. G. Scott, of the Cincinnati office, has been highly commended for his weekly "Marketing Talks for Housewives," appearing in the Thursday issue of the Cincinnati Times-Star. The editor of the Woman's Page,- the page which carries these talks, - advised that the articles have been given much favorable comment by readers and have met with wide public approval. The editor mentions her personal enjoyment of the weekly stories, and states that the numerous requests for bulletins and booklets, suggested in the talks, are only one evidence of the interest in this work.

The Packer for May 15 carried an advertisement, covering fully one-third of a page, in which many of the data on fruits and vegetables in the Cincinnati market, originally published in Mr. Scott's summary of Cincinnati unloads, were reprinted. A map from this summary also is re-published, the map showing Cincinnati's varied sources of supply. The advertisement was inserted by the Fifth-Third National Bank of Cincinnati, in solicitation of the business in drafts on produce shipments, etc. The bank obtained the data from Mr. Scott, and has given full credit to this Department.

4b. THE CHICAGO ASPARAGUS MARKET.

In view of the recent discussion in the Division Letter (April 16, Par. 15b) regarding loose and bunched asparagus on the New York market, a description of conditions on the Chicago market may be of interest. The following article was submitted by Wendell Calhoun:-

Chicago differs somewhat from other eastern cities in that it is the principal market for Imperial Valley "grass," which is rather in a class by itself, so far as marketing methods and problems are concerned. Chicago unloaded about 70% of the asparagus shipped from the Imperial Valley and only a slightly greater number of cars from Northern California, whereas the Northern California shipments are many times those from the Valley.

All of the Imperial Valley asparagus is shipped in two-pound bunches packed in the standard western pyramid crates, holding a dozen bunches each. It is of the long green type, generally of good quality and green well down to the base. But it grows a high percentage of slender stalks, grading "strings" and "smalls." These are so flexible that it would be impossible to have a bulk or loose-packed crate arrive with the stalks still in an orderly and attractive position. So, while there are several other factors entering into the relative merits of bunched and loose "grass," Imperial Valley stock undoubtedly will continue to be bunched, at least until the growers succeed in producing larger-sized stalks.

Georgia "grass" also comes bunched, in the same style crate, but as yet it is not a very large factor on the Chicago market.

Of the 80 or more cars of Northern California asparagus sold here, about 90% was loose packed, in the standard western crate. What came bunched was mostly of the best quality; so we had little opportunity to compare the relative prices received for bunched and loose stock, but apparently the price per crate was about the same, grade and quality considered. On the average, a loose crate will have about six pounds more than a bunched crate, and the value of this is usually from 50¢ to $1.25, depending on grade and price. This can be only slightly offset by the extra labor cost of bunching. The Northern California shippers must figure that the increased demand for the loose crate is worth the extra "grass."

So far as the preference of the trade goes, there is no unanimity of opinion. The bunched "grass" usually is graded more evenly for size, although in some cases the loose-packed was very uniform. There is a suspicion in the minds of some that rather inferior "grass" may be covered up in the center of the bunch, and they feel that in a loose crate they can see more of the "grass" and get a better idea of its general quality. As regards the size of the original bunch in the final retail sale, that is of little moment. The first high-priced "grass" is taken largely by the hotel and restaurant trade. What the retailer puts in his fresh vegetable display, he divides into bunches of a size to suit the taste and demand of his trade, whether he sells it by weight or at so much per bunch. Comparatively few of the original two-pound bunches are purchased as such by Mrs. Housewife.

(continued over)

THE NEW ENGLAND CRANBERRY SALES COMPANY, Middleboro, Mass., handled 225,754 barrels of cranberries last season, which sold for a larger sum than any previous crop. The total amount paid growers, after deducting all marketing expenses, was $2,183,534. The organization has completed its 19th year.

We have had some excellent long light-green "grass" from the Los Angeles district, packed loose in a crate about the equivalent of the standard pyramid, but which is the same width top and bottom. Also some very fine Asparagus from Oregon, packed 2⅔ dozen one-pound bunches in a pyramid crate, which tapers more than, but otherwise is about the same size as, the California pyramids. I understand that, at shipping point, this "grass" is quoted by the dozen bunches, but here it is sold on a crate basis, the same as all the others.

Washington sent Chicago considerable loose-packed "grass," mostly in 12 and 18-pound small pyramid crates. We had one straight car and some l.c.l. lots from Utah, the advance notices of which were in the D. L. some time back. The Utah "grass" was of nice quality, but entirely ungraded. It came loose pack, pyramid crate, and every crate contained all lengths and all sizes, from strings to large. If the Utah shippers are out to establish a market, they should improve their pack. The Utah crate apparently is made according to the measurement specifications given in the tables which we have, but it is the only one received here which does so correspond. All others measure 18¼ inches inside length, instead of 17-11/16 inches, as the measurement tables give.

And now we come to the Illinois supplies " and nearby points;" as the code says. The trade estimates on the number of types and sizes of Illinois asparagus containers vary from 25 to 40. I am inclined to favor the top of the range. General types are flats, sections, and narrow pyramids, or whatever is convenient. The policy seems to be: "Let the buyer beware" whether the crate is four, five, or six inches wide, or varies two inches in length, and whether it is full or not full. But I think nearly everyone connected with the deal is agreed that it would be more satisfactory to the growers, as well as to everyone else, if uniform styles and standard measurements were used. Illinois "grass" was held back by the late spring; so, the western shippers had an unusually long season in which they could ship to Chicago with satisfactory returns.

Just a word regarding the car-lot equivalent tables for l.c.l. shipments: The new table gives California standard crates as 608 to a car. Speaking for the Chicago arrivals, this is correct only on freight shipments from Northern California. Express shipments from there range from 710 to 800 crates. Sometimes, when supplies are limited, a car is sent out with less, but our Chicago receiver says that a standard load is never less than 700. The standard load from Imperial Valley is 716, and practically all cars come at 716 or 720. Gross weight of Imperial Valley crates averages about 28 pounds, and it takes 715 to make the minimum carload requirement of 20,000 pounds. As l.c.l. shipments, on which carlot equivalents would be used, come only by express, it would seem that the 720 in the old table is correct, rather than 608 crates, as in the revised table. It is very general practice to stop cars at the smaller markets, take out 100 or 200 crates (whatever the dealer there can use that day), and then send the car on its way. Even in Chicago, the firm handling practically all the northern California asparagus seldom held anything over. Whenever a considerable part of a load was left in a car at night, it was sent on to another market. So, when some of the eastern Markets get a 500 or 600-crate car, that may not have been the original loading.

B. C. BOREE,
Marketing Specialist.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

Stations	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably will close
MOBILE, ALA.** Custom House	924	H. E. Rutland	Cabbage*	Apr. 19	May 20*
			Potatoes	May 18	June 12
WILMINGTON, N. C.** 102 Custom House	805	R. H. Lamb	Berries	May 1	May 29
			Lettuce	May 6	June 5
			Potatoes	June 1	June 30
			Stg.Beans	June 10	June 30
			Cucumbers	June 15	July 3
EL CENTRO, CALIF. Barbara Worth Hotel	806	C. E. Schultz A. E. Prugh	Cants.	May 11	July 10
POCOMOKE CITY, MD.** Peninsula Bldg.	878	H. W. Schneck A. Stambaugh	Berries	May 21	June 15
			Potatoes	June 15	July 31
MONETT, MO.	857	W. H. Mosier	Berries	May 25	June 15
CHARLESTON, S. C. Chamber of Commerce	858	J. W. Park	Potatoes	May 24	June 19
LEESBURG, FLA.**	832	R. L. Sutton	W-melons	May 28	June 26
			Tomatoes	June 1	June 19
			Cucumbers	June 5	June 19
MACON, GA.**	833	R. H. Shoemaker	Peaches	June 2	July 24
CRYSTAL SPRINGS, MISS.	809	J. D. Evers	Tomatoes	June 3	June 30
JACKSONVILLE, TEXAS	811	W. F. Cox	Tomatoes	June 3	June 30

The following station probably will open on date indicated:

ELIZABETH CITY, N. C.	810	W. G. Lensen	Potatoes	June 7	June 30

The following stations closed on dates indicated:

ROCHESTER, N. Y.** 419 Triangle Bldg.	837	H. S. Duncan A. L. Thomas	Apples	Sept. 4	May 29
			Pears	Sept. 4	Oct. 31
			Cabbage	Sept. 4	Mar. 12
			Onions	Sept. 14	May 1
			Peaches	Sept. 14	Oct. 3
			Celery	Sept. 16	Jan. 23
			Potatoes	Sept. 16	May 29
			Grapes	Sept. 21	Oct. 31
			Carrots	Sept. 23	May 15
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. 419 Federal Bldg. MAIL: P.O. Box 86	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Apples	Oct. 7	Nov. 24
			Potatoes	Oct. 7	May 25
			Onions	Oct. 7	Mar. 20
BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS.** Chamber of Commerce	931	J. D. Evers	Cabbage	Feb. 1	May 8
			Beets	Feb. 1	May 8
			Carrots	Feb. 1	May 11
			Potatoes	Mar. 29	May 28
			Stg.Beans	Apr. 1	May 1
			Tomatoes	May 1	May 28
HASTINGS, FLA.** Bowles Bldg.	851	R. L. Sutton	Potatoes	Apr. 22	May 22
CRYSTAL CITY, TEXAS ** Depot	867	W. F. Cox	Onions	Apr. 22	May 26
JUDSONIA, ARK. Bank of Judsonia Bldg.	856	W. G. Lensen	Berries	May 10	May 24

** State cooperating.

* Reports discontinued.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. BERRY INSPECTION DEAL CLOSED IN WESTERN TENNESSEE.

R. C. Lindstrom wired from Jackson, Tenn., on May 21 as follows:- "Strawberry deal finished today. Inspected 32 cars. All cars sold for cash on ground, and deal very successful. Quality has been good; 27 cars passed U.S. No.1; remainder failed account size."

2c. DRY WEATHER SERIOUSLY REDUCES MISSOURI BERRY CROP.

Information just received from N. D. Sanbron, at Monett, Mo., indicates that prolonged dry weather is having a serious effect on the yield of strawberries in that section. The crop may be much lighter than at first expected, and the inspection work may be greatly reduced. Rain was badly needed.

3c. VIRGINIA INSPECTION ARRANGEMENTS.

Information from F. Earl Parsons, of the Richmond office, indicates that the Eastern Shore of Virginia inspection work will be under the supervision of K. W. Schaible, with headquarters at Cape Charles, and mail address P.O. Box 126, Cape Charles. "Later," Mr. Parsons says, "we plan to open an office for a short time at Exmore and possibly at Parksley, but the Cape Charles address will be the main location throughout the cabbage and white potato season, or until the latter part of July."

About June 1, Mr. Parsons expects to open an office at Room 308, Southern Produce Bldg., Norfolk, Va., as headquarters for shipping-point inspections in the Norfolk district. He will be there part of the time and will spend the remainder of his time at Richmond. R. J. Rea will have charge of the Norfolk district work, when Mr. Parsons is absent. H. H. Henderson, our inspector, also will assist in checking the writing of certificates, in so far as his time permits. Potatoes and cabbage will be the principal products inspected in the Norfolk area.

4c. A NEW RECORD MADE FOR LONG-DISTANCE INSPECTION.

Writing from the Norfolk office on May 24, H. H. Henderson told of an inspection trip, which he had to make to North Carolina recently:-

"An item in the Division Letter of April 30 (Par. 4c), with reference to an inspector in Colorado having made a trip of 160 miles to inspect a carload of potatoes, prompts me to tell of a trip which I made last week from Norfolk, Va., to Asheville, N.C., to inspect a carload of mixed vegetables. The distance traveled was 446.1 miles each way. It took two days and three nights to make the trip, and the total cost to the applicant, including inspection fee, was $49.52. The expenses would have been $6.19 more, except for the fact that I took advantage of the reduced round-trip rates. I do not know how satisfactory the results of the inspection were to the applicant and shipper, for I found the contents of the car in rather bad shape. I wonder whether anyone in the Inspection Service has traveled a greater distance than this for the purpose of inspecting one carload of produce."

The next 10 items are from Shipping-Point Inspectors' Letter No. 23, issued by F. E. Bailey on May 21 for Oregon and Washington inspectors:

5c. CHERRY SUGAR TESTS IN OREGON.

Henry Hartman, Associate Professor of Pomology at O.A.C., has supplied the following remarks regarding the sugar or specific gravity work which he has been conducting on cherries during the past two seasons. His work for the season of 1924 was summarized in Oregon Station Circular No. 61, "Preliminary Studies Relating to the Harvesting and Canning of Sweet Cherries." The following notes by Mr. Hartman are supplementary to his discussion in circular No. 61:-

"It now appears that the sugar or specific gravity test of maturity is applicable to the cherry. Invariably the cherries that show a high sugar content are cherries of good quality. It has been our experience here that such varieties as Bing and Lambert must test above 18% before they are really good for dessert purposes. The sugar content does not increase after picking.

"A few words regarding the application of the sugar test may not be out of place at this time. Tests with the early varieties this spring indicate that the extraction of the juice is much simplified by first running the fruit through a food chopper, using a coarse blade. The seeds break readily and do not interfere with this operation. In most cases it has been possible to extract a sufficient amount of juice by merely squeezing the ground pulp by hand, through one thickness of ordinary canvas.

"The temperature of the juice must not be changed after extraction. It has been our experience that when this is done, the juice soon coagulates or becomes thick. The best results have been obtained by applying the hydrometer as soon after extraction as possible, making the temperature changes according to the correction table, rather than by changing the temperature of the juice.

"We are now using the smaller hydrometers for this work. These instruments are much handier for work in the field and, besides, can be applied to much smaller quantities of juice."

In his work during the season of 1925, Mr. Hartman found that the late pickings of many varieties showed a higher sugar or soluble solids content than did the late pickings for the same varieties from the same orchards in 1924. Possibly this may be explained in part by a drier season, which caused the juice in the fruit to become more concentrated.

6c. MINT INDUSTRY IN OREGON.

A recent bulletin from the office of the Oregon State Market Agent says that in 1925 about 250 acres were used in the production of mint in the State, while about 2,000 additional acres have been planted this year. The average quantity of oil produced per acre is 50 pounds and the usual price to the grower is $4 to $6 per pound. Beaverdam and swamp soils are used in the production of this crop. Notwithstanding the high nitrogen content of these soils, it frequently is necessary to apply 50 to 150 pounds of nitrate of soda per acre. This crop is a very heavy nitrogen feeder. (Copies of this report can be obtained from C. E. Spence, 712 Court House, Portland, Oregon.)

7c. VACUUM FUMIGATION.

The Vacufume Company, Inc., at Los Angeles, has a well-illustrated booklet, which describes the equipment used in the vacuum fumigation of potatoes at Colma, California. This fumigation is made for the purpose of destroying any tuber moth which may be present in the stock, before it is shipped into other States. The title of the booklet is "Vacufume" and it will be sent to any person upon request to the Company. This process is used also in the fumigation of dates, walnuts, almonds, grains, and various other food products.

8c. PROPER PLUNGERS FOR PRESSURE TESTERS.

After personal conferences with Prof. Hartman, at O.A.C., and Prof. Allen, of the University of California, and correspondence with Dr. Magness, the following table has been compiled to show the proper pressure test plungers to use in testing the various fruits to which the pressure tester is applicable. D. Ballauf, Inc., manufacturers of the pressure test instruments adopted by the Inspection Service, are furnishing two plungers for each instrument, where they are requested. These plungers are 5/16 of an inch and 7/16 of an inch in diameter respectively, and should be used as follows:-

Apples,	7/16 of an inch plunger.
Apricots,	5/16 "
Peaches,	5/16 "
Pears,	5/16 "
Italian and harder types of prunes and plums,	5/16 of an inch plunger.
Japanese and other soft flesh plums,	7/16 of an inch plunger.

The reason for using the two types of plungers is that in case of hard flesh prunes, like the Italian, the fruit is frequently split by the larger type of plunger. If the smaller plunger is used on the soft flesh varieties, the range in the readings for the different stages of maturity is not sufficient to make the different stages stand out clearly. This method of adjusting the size of the plunger to the pressure resistance of the flesh of different types and varieties of fruit in a general way accounts for the need of using two types of plungers.

It is interesting to note that, for practical purposes, a table of values which has been worked out for a given fruit with one diameter of plunger may be used in computing a table for the same fruit with another type of plunger, by the use of a simple ratio. For example, if a variety of apple tests 15 pounds, using the 7/16 inch plunger, the pound rating for the same apple, with the 5/16 inch plunger, would be determined by the following formula:

7:5::15:X

While this method is not recommended for scientific work, it may prove of value in the practical application of the pressure tester in the field.

Sufficient testers are now on hand in Washington and Oregon to permit these being used generally in obtaining uniformity of maturity determination during the Italian prune shipments.

9c. WASHINGTON RHUBARB VARIETIES.

During the recent rhubarb shipping season, Ralph Marble, inspector at Sumner, Washington, sent to the Spokane office samples of five varieties of rhubarb, which are produced in the Sumner district:

Giant or Wine: This, according to Mr. Marble, is the best forcing and commercial field variety. It has a fine creamy ground-color, overspread with light red, and the stalks weighed from 3/4 to 1-1/8 pounds when properly trimmed for commercial shipment. The stalks are very straight.

Old Country or German: This is said to be an especially fine variety for canning, because of the large tonnage produced, but it is not desirable for commercial shipments, as it does not color well and is too large. Stalks range in weight from 1 to 1-1/2 pounds and measure from 18 to 23 inches long.

Victoria: Stalks of this variety range from 18 to 20 inches in length.

Strawberry: This variety has a very deep red color and the stalks range from 13 to 17 inches in length.

A new seedling which has been developed recently at Sumner, has small stalks, 8 to 10 inches in length, but possesses a deep red color, not only on the surface but throughout the greater part of the flesh. This seedling, if it proves to have good shipping qualities, undoubtedly will find favor with those who prefer a highly-colored type of rhubarb.

10c. WALLA WALLA SPINACH AND RHUBARB.

Under date of May 15, Wendell P. Brown, District Horticultural Inspector at Walla Walla, supplied the following notes on spinach and rhubarb production in the Walla Walla Valley:

"The first plantings of SPINACH are made in August or September on ground from which a crop of onions has been harvested. Other plantings are made at various intervals until extremely bad weather sets in. If the weather is open, there are some plantings made in early spring. This spinach is harvested as soon as it is large enough. The season has something to do with the date of harvest. However, the first is harvested in October and a continuous harvesting of the crop is carried on through the winter and early spring, even up until the middle of April. The end of the spinach-shipping season generally comes about the middle of April, although there are some small lots shipped after that date.

"The variety that is grown practically universally is the Improved Thick Leaf. An average yield is three to three and one-half tons per acre.

"The spinach that is shipped in carlots is packed generally in lettuce crates. The box is first lined with a wax paper and the crate is filled about half full; then a chunk of ice, weighing about 20 pounds, is placed in the center. The filling of the crate is completed and the paper lining is used to enclose the spinach completely. This package contains 40 pounds net spinach. The usual loading is 320 crates to a car.

(continued over)

"For the l.c.l. shipments, the package used is a half-crate, and this contains 18 pounds net. Most of the l.c.l. shipments are made in this crate, but some of them are iced. When the 18-pound packages for these shipments are iced, the bunched onion crates, which are about two inches deeper, are used. The crate is paper lined and a small piece of ice is put in it, the packing being similar to that of the larger containers.

"This spinach is shipped to all parts of the East and meets with considerable favor with the trade. The crop sandwiches in between the onion harvest and the time for transplanting of onions in the spring.

"In Walla Walla during the last year, 130 cars where shipped, and the cash return to the growers was very staisfactory.

RHUBARB.

"There are several systems of rhubarb production here in the Walla Walla Valley, and we are able to grow some of the earliest rhubarb that is put on the market. Some of it is produced in root cellars, and I will describe one of them:

"One grower has a basement that has no floor in it. He hauls in some rich dirt to put on the floor, and puts in the roots. He uses a stove to produce heat enough to bring the crop to early maturity. He uses very little heat, and on warm days it is not necessary to use the stove at all. This system requires the liberal application of water, and the production was about the best harvested here. The stalks were medium-sized and had better color than any others. The stock showed about 85% good red color and was graded Fancy by one of the local organizations. The only light in this basement was from the east side, and the morning sun shone in there.

"Another system is that of growing rhubarb in hothouses. On each side of the hothouse are shelves, with a two-foot aisle down the center. The better grade of stock was grown on the upper shelves, as it had better color than that grown on the lower shelves.

"The earliest rhubarb grown outside was produced with the application of artesian water about January 1. This water is warm and, when applied in this way, the plants come into bearing considerably earlier than do those that are left to grow naturally. This spring I saw some rhubarb ready to pull, whereas the plants that had not been irrigated by artesian water were just coming through the ground. There are only a few growers so situated that they can use the artesian water for this purpose, and only a small percentage of the rhubarb that we have is grown this way. Watered crops did not have the usual advantage in date of maturity over crops grown under natural conditions, because of the warm winter this year.

"During the year 1926 to date there have been shipped about 47 straight cars of rhubarb. In addition there were 40 or 50 cars shipped in mixed loads and some additional in l.c.l. and express shipments."

11c. ADDITIONAL NOTES ON WENATCHEE VALLEY CROPS:

The District Horticultural Inspector at Wenatchee advised further:-

"The pear crop appears to be about the same as last year, when 556 cars were shipped. The apple crop, in all probability, will be about 5% less than the 1925 crop, with Winesaps and Delicious light and Jonathans, Spitzenburgs and Romes heavy."

12c. APPLICATION OF CHERRY SUGAR TEST.

Referring to the preceding article, inspectors may be interested in knowing what is to be the application of the sugar test to shipping-point inspection work of cherries. It is planned to have testing equipment supplied to inspectors at most of the cherry inspection points.

The percentage of sugar or soluble solids, which a lot of cherries shows upon test, will not be indicated upon the certificate, but such tests will be recorded somewhere upon the note sheet, when they are made. It will not be practical at many loading points to test every grower's lot or even to make a minimum sugar test for each carlot, nor will this be required. It will be expected, however, that inspectors make tests of as many lots as time will permit, without interference with the remainder of the inspection work. All of these tests should be recorded upon the proper note sheets and will be used in obtaining uniformity of maturity and sweetness determination between various inspectors.

In describing cherries, under "Quality and Condition" on the certificate the terms "immature" and "mature," "sour," "fairly sweet," and "sweet," "fairly well colored" and "well colored" will be used in describing the stock, just as was done last year.

As stated above, inspectors will not need to make tests of every lot, but it will be of great value to them to test as many lots as possible, and it will be found that, after one has tested a reasonable number of lots of a certain variety but of varying quality, he soon will learn to judge accurately the sweetness and maturity of the stock upon casual examination, without either tasting or testing it.

Another use for which the sugar test has proved of great value is in demonstrating to growers that their stock is or is not properly matured and well sugared. If an inspector will press some juice from a well-matured lot of cherries and at the same time press some from an immature lot of the same variety and allow a grower to drink some of each lot of juice, he can very quickly impress him with the fact that the immature cherries lack sugar. The difference in the sugar content stands out much more clearly when one drinks the expressed juice than when he eats the whole fruit of the different lots. One inspector used this method to great advantage last year in clinching his arguments with growers in the matter of more-mature and better-quality fruit. As Professor Hartman states, cherries do not develop sugar after being removed from the tree and, therefore, they can be no sweeter on the retail stand than they are when they leave the orchard.

13 c. WENATCHEE CROP PROSPECTS:

Geo. E. Harter, District Horticultural Inspector at Wenatchee, wrote on May 18:

"No official survey of the crop situation has been made for this season and no estimate of the apple crop will be taken until July 1, which will be the only estimate made by the Horticultural office.

"But, from a casual survey, it appears that the cherry crop will be about half that of last season, when we shipped about 202 cars, including cannery stock.

"The peach crop is a little less than last year's, when we shipped 115 cars. The apricot crop suffered some damage from two frosts, and the shipments this year probably will be about two-thirds of last year's, when 60 cars were shipped."

14c. YAKIMA CROP PROSPECTS:

W. L. Close, District Horticultural Inspector at Yakima, wrote on May 17: "For six successive nights, May 4 to 9 inclusive, minimum temperature, considerably below freezing, damaged grapes and other kinds of garden truck in quite extensive areas. The low temperature tapered off toward the South and at Grandview and below there was very little damage. Weather conditions since that time have been most favorable for rapid growth; also for the development of codling moth. Young worms have been found entering the fruit."

Mr. Close says that the apple situation has not changed materially since his last report on May 4, when he stated: "The crop will be several thousand cars shorter than last season. Apples are generally uneven in set. Jonathans and Romes appear best. Winesaps range from none at all to full crops. Delicious are very light. Pears are uneven in set, and certain important districts show light sets, with considerable malformations due to frost. Peaches look fine, and the tonnage may equal or exceed that of last year. Cherries will be very light, with present prospects indicating less than half of last season's tonnage. Plums and prunes are uneven in set. Frost damage is noticeable in local areas in these fruits. Apricots appear to be setting a full crop and no doubt will exceed last season's tonnage."

15c. FLORIDA SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTIONS.

The following inspections were made at shipping points in the various sections of Florida during the period May 1 to 15:-

Section	Grapefruit	Oranges	Tangerines	Mixed	Total
Leesburg	1	0	0	1	2
Mt. Dora	10	7	0	6	23
Tavares	1	0	0	1	2
Umatilla	0	1	0	1	2
*Leesburg	1	-	-	-	1
Totals	13	8	0	9	30
Total to April 30	332	555	43	308	1238
	345	563	43	317	1268

* Leesburg billing omitted from report last half of April.

Section	Celery	Potatoes	Cabbage	Tomatoes	Total
Bradenton	0	0	0	6	6
East Palatka	0	52	0	0	52
Elkton	0	164	0	0	164
Ellenton	0	0	0	10	10
Green Cove Springs	0	7	0	0	7
Hastings	0	220	0	0	220
Matoaka	1	0	0	0	1
Orange Mills	0	52	0	0	52
Palmetto	0	0	0	60	60
Rubonia	0	0	0	3	3
San Mateo	0	16	0	0	16
Spuds	0	63	0	0	63
Terra Ceia	0	0	0	16	16
Yelvington	0	25	0	0	25
Totals	1	599	0	95	695
Totals to April 30	1002	201	74	2	1279
	1003	800	74	97	1974

TOTAL INSPECTIONS OF FRUITS AND VEGETABLES TO MAY 15:---------- 3,242

16c. VIRGINIA STRAWBERRIES, CABBAGE AND POTATOES.

A letter of May 25 from F. Earl Parsons, Richmond, Va., contains the following interesting information regarding crops in that State:-

"Inasmuch as I enjoy getting data on prospective deals in other States and also prospective crops, I presume others may be interested in Virginia conditions: Most of the strawberries grown in the Norfolk section are of the Klondyke variety and Missionary variety. Juice factories purchased the greater part of the production this year and, on account of dry weather, the major part of the crop has already moved. On the Eastern Shore probably 75% of the acreage is of the Heflin variety. The remainder is largely Kellog's Premier, Chesapeake and Big Joe, the latter three being later-maturing varieties. On the Eastern Shore, the Heflin variety develops berries of a fantastic shape, particularly from the newer plants. Many of the berries are large and resemble butterflies, aeroplanes, etc., as they are very angular and irregularly shaped. After the first year, growers advise that the fields produce berries more like the usual Heflin shape, which is rather narrow and long. This variety is rather a tender berry, and I doubt if it stands long-distance shipments in a satisfactory manner. A few 60-qt. crates are used in the Norfolk section, but throughout Virginia most of the strawberries are shipped in 32-qt. ventilated crates. The peak of the berry season will be over by June 1, though shipments will continue during the first week in June.

"Cabbage:- Throughout the Atlantic Coast section of Virginia, practically all of the cabbage is of the Wakefield or pointed type and shipped in rectangular crates, with center partitions, holding practically a barrel. Shipments have already begun and carlot quantities were expected to move after May 24, with the heavy movement probably the first week in June. The dry weather recently was very hard on the cabbage, but rain a week ago has started to bring it back, and we now expect the stock to be of excellent quality, though small to medium in size. Shipments are somewhat later than usual; so, the harvest probably will extend longer than the 10th of June.

"White Potatoes:- The potato crop in Virginia at this date shows about the best prospects in years. In the Norfolk and lower Eastern Shore, the stand is exceptionally good and better than normal, while the northern part of the Eastern Shore has about the normal stand. In a few sections, hail has damaged narrow strips, but its effect on the production, in so far as quantity is concerned, is very limited. In some fields the potatoes are in bloom but this is not true of the general run of planting. Shippers expect the first movement probably will be around June 10 or 12, with a light movement up until about the 21st. The peak of the Virginia movement should occur between June 23 and July 15, though shipments in smaller quantities probably will continue until August 1. Rain about the middle of May came at a very opportune time, and all indications promise a very good crop of high quality potatoes this year."

ROBERT BIER,
Supervising Inspector.

(SEE Par. 17c on Page 322)

TEMPORARY HEADQUARTERS OF EASTERN AND SOUTHERN SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION DEALS

State	Federal Supervisor	Products	Approx. date of Opening	Closing
FLORIDA:	J. C. Townsend, Jr., Box 629, Palmetto, Fla.	Tomatoes	Apr. 26	June 5
TEXAS:	C. D. Shirley, Harlingen, Texas	Vegetables	Jan. 1	June 15
	H. T. Longino, Jacksonville, Texas	Tomatoes	June 1	June 30
ARKANSAS:	G. W. Winfrey, Van Buren, Ark.	Berries	May 3	June 5
MISSISSIPPI:	F. S. Kinsey, Crystal Springs, Miss.	Vegetables	May 3	June 26
TENNESSEE:	J. A. Marks, County Court House, Chattanooga, Tenn.	Berries	May 10	May 29
VIRGINIA:	K. W. Schaible, P. O. Box 126, Cape Charles, Va.	Berries Cabbage Potatoes	May 17 May 24 June 10	June 5 June 19 July 24
MISSOURI:	N. D. Sanborn, Monett, Mo.	Berries	May 20	June 19
MARYLAND:	H. W. Schneck, Pocomoke City, Md.	Berries Potatoes	May 21 June 15	June 19 July 31
GEORGIA:	O. G. Strauss, G. R. Warren, Hotel Macon, Macon, Ga.	Peaches	June 1	July 31
OKLAHOMA:	M. C. Gregory, Muskogee, Okla.	Potatoes	June 1	July 3
The following stations closed on or about dates indicated:				
FLORIDA:	O. G. Strauss, Box 188, Orlando, Fla.	Citrus Fruit	Oct. 1	May 29
	G. R. Warren, Hastings, Fla.	Potatoes	Apr. 20	May 29
TEXAS:	H. T. Longino, Carrizo Springs, Texas	Onions	Apr. 10	May 29
TENNESSEE:	R. C. Lindstrom, Jackson, Tenn.	Berries	May 7	May 21

NOTE: Supervisors should promptly send corrections of data in above columns.
R. C. Lindstrom temporarily in New Orleans, La., office.

OFFICE NOTES:

After his conferences at northwestern points this week, Mr. Robb is arranging to proceed to Denver early next week. Mr. Samson was scheduled to reach Denver by this Saturday, from which point he will come to Kansas City and other middlewestern markets. Mr. Stillwell was in California, at last report, but probably will be going to the Pacific Northwest very soon.

During his period of leave, which extends to June 13, J. E. Dickerson's address is Parma, Idaho. W. E. Leigh is in charge of Cincinnati inspections.

Instead of returning to Chicago on completion of the western Tennessee berry inspection deal last week, R. C. Lindstrom was sent to New Orleans, La., where he is handling the work until F. M. Lyle reports for duty early next week.

F. S. Kinsey, who was stationed in New Orleans, has now proceded to Crystal Springs, Miss., where he will supervise the inspections of various vegetables, principally tomatoes. This relieves C. R. Newton of responsibility for the Mississippi deal, and enables him to give full attention to the work in Louisiana.

Mr. Bier went to Pocomoke City, Md., yesterday, for conference with H. W. Schneck regarding inspection work at Eastern Shore shipping points.

R. H. Shoemaker discontinued potato market reports at Grand Rapids, Mich., on Tuesday, and is proceedingto Macon, Ga., via Washington. He will issue reports on peaches at Macon.

W. G. Lensen closed the Judsonia, Ark., field station on Monday. He is now in the Washington office en route to Elizabeth City, N.C., to operate the field station on early potatoes.

A report from the Denver office shows 101 inspections made in Colorado during the week ending May 15, bringing up the total for the season to 18,543 cars.

J. D. Evers expects to close the Brownsville, Texas, field station today or Saturday, and will proceed to Crystal Springs, Miss., to issue reports on tomatoes.

R. L. Sutton discontinued potato market reports at Hastings, Fla., last Saturday. He will open a field station at Leesburg, Fla., instead of Ocala, for the publication of bulletins on watermelons, tomatoes and cucumbers.

W. F. Cox closed the Crystal City, Texas, office on Wednesday, and went to the Fort Worth office for a few days before proceeding to Jacksonville, Texas, where he will operate the usual news service on tomatoes, starting next week.

By the end of this week, it is expected that O. G. Strauss will complete his work at Orlando, Fla., and G. R. Warren his potato inspections at Hastings. Both these men will locate immediately at Macon, Ga., for the peach inspection deal. Mr. Strauss has been supervising Florida inspections since last September.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

The Oklahoma State Market Commission was anxious to get the inspection work lined up promptly, and it was decided to send M. C. Gregory from Fort Worth to Oklahoma, to supervise this deal, which will be chiefly on potatoes. He met H. B. Converse, of the Commission, at Oklahoma City today, and a tour will be made at once of the various shipping points in the eastern part of the State. It is possible (though not yet certain) that Mr. Gregory's headquarters will be at Muskogee, as were Mr. Harsha's headquarters last season.

Part of the time during the next two months, F. Earl Parsons, of the Virginia staff, will be at Norfolk, supervising inspection work on cabbage and potatoes. His address there will be Room 308, Southern Produce Building.

Miss Mary Hall will prepare the next two issues of the Division Letter, as the regular editor will be on leave.

Discontinuing market reports at Rochester this Saturday, A. L. Thomas will be on leave at his home, 10 Waverly St., Rochester. The extended service given in western New York this season has been commended by growers and shippers. Rochester office will be reopened in August.

California Inspectors' Notes, dated May 21, were a day late in reaching the Washington office. They usually are received on Thursday, but this time did not arrive until Friday, after the copy for our D.L. had been completed. Excerpts from this latest issue of the Inspectors' Notes may be published in the next Division Letter.

A wire just received from Newark, N.J., advises that W. H. Steinbauer is ill, and has been ordered by physicians to be off duty perhaps a month.

(continued from Page 319)

17c. MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS FROM THE NORTHWEST:

- Two cars of apples and 14 cars of broccoli constituted the total number of inspections made by the State Board of Horticulture in Oregon during the month of April. To May 1, about 4,320 certificates had been issued in cooperation with the State Board.

- Ralph Marble, of Sumner, Wash., stated in a letter of May 19 that the first car of lettuce would roll from there on May 22. Mr. Marble says the first lettuce probably will be somewhat soft. Rain during the past month has held up the harvest of lettuce, and it has been feared that the strawberry crop also might be damaged but apparently no damage has been done to date.

- P. S. Darlington, District Horticultural Inspector at Seattle, Wash., reports 820 acres of early lettuce in King County,- that is, lettuce which will mature in May and June. The acreage of late lettuce to be planted will depend somewhat upon the market conditions when the early crop is moved.

After all the other pages of this D.L. were mimeographed, this letter arrived:

18c. SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ONION AND CANTALOUPE SITUATION.

The following information was received in a letter of May 23, from E. E. Conklin, Jr., who was then at El Centro, Calif.:

"I have divided my time this past week between the Coachella Valley, where Bermuda onion inspection is in progress, and the Imperial Valley, where cantaloupes are moving freely. I am leaving here tonight for a few more days at Indio; then will return to Sacramento.

Coachella Valley Onions:

"The acreage of onions in the Coachella Valley is large and early prospects were for a good quality crop of large size, but unseasonable rains caused a heavy percentage of splits in the early stock and apparently caused many of the Wax onions to take on a greenish discoloration, probably due to sunburn. The discoloration occurred not only along the ribs, as is often common with Wax, but also as large blotches or spots on the top of the onions. There is difference of opinion as to just why this condition was much worse than usual. It seems possible that it may have resulted from rains, leaving an excessive amount of moisture in the ground and resulting in the onions being more crisp and tender and, therefore, more susceptible to sunburn.

"During the past two weeks, the green discoloration has caused many cars of Wax to be out of grade on inspection. It affects the appearance only; so, is not as serious as a blemish which might result in decay. However Wax onions are sold primarily on appearance, and stock showing the discoloration is not as attractive as that with the normal clear, white color.

"Mr. Samson visited the district last week and thought that the inspectors were scoring this factor too heavily. So, the interpretation was changed slightly to allow a little more sunburn in No. 1 grade. Our present interpretation is somewhat like that for pinks,-that is, we dump a crate of onions and, if there are (1) too few onions with green discoloration to affect the general appearance of the crate, or (2) if the onions affected with a green discoloration have such a light shade of discoloration that the general appearance is unaffected, the crate is considered up to grade.

"Last week many cars showed 25%-35% of discolored stock, and were reported that far out of U.S.No.1 grade. However, the Wax onions are mostly shipped now and those left are not showing a great deal of this condition.

"The later Yellow onions, which are now moving, are of better quality and probably many of them will meet U.S.No.1. Stock ordinarily is reported as U.S.No.1 or a percentage of U.S.No.1. However, many cars of partly U.S.No.1 Large and a few U.S.No.1 Pinks are being reported. Much off-grade stock is being shipped without inspection. Some is called No.2 and some Commercial, but neither term has any particular meaning, as many such cars are mostly splits and seed-stems, with boilers sometimes mixed in.

"Sunscald is the most serious trouble now. Cars showing over the tolerance are, of course, reported off-grade. Some of the scald probably dries up, but I expect that most of it will arrive on the markets as decay.

"There may be some trouble with pinks before the deal is over, but they are causing trouble only in a few lots, as yet.

"Prospects are that about 1,000 cars will be shipped from Coachella Valley, about 75% of which will carry inspection. Inspection is made of each truck-load, as it is brought to the packing house or team track. So, the men are able to tell very accurately what stock is loaded into each car. At one time most stock was packed 'faced pack,' that is, onions of even, good quality

(continued over)

were placed around the sides, top and bottom of the crates. This season only one of the large shippers is doing this, and the rest are simply filling the crates, with no effort made to face. This is a more desirable practice and apparently the former method is rapidly losing ground.

Imperial Valley Cantaloupes:

"Prospects were for a large Imperial Valley cantaloupe deal, with a heavy demand for inspection. However, the situation does not look bright at present. The early acreage of the H-B variety, which was covered by brush, was ready for shipment very early, and over 3,000 cars have already moved, compared with about 150 last season. The crown set was unusually heavy, but the early fields are now badly wilted down from mildew and, in many cases, no second set will be harvested. The later fields also show mildew, but, as it usually does not hit a field badly until just before picking starts, it is impossible to tell how seriously the later melons may be affected. It is generally thought now that the early covered acreage has been cut 50% by the mildew, and that later acreage will be cut 25%. If dusting work which is going on now controls or stops the mildew, the damage may be less.

"Inspection work on cantaloupes has not been heavy on the early stock. Around 200 cars have been inspected from the Imperial Valley. The tonnage w would have been considerably heavier, were the quality better. Much of the stock now moving does not meet U.S.No.1 grade, on account of poor netting or failure to meet the 9% sugar test. The H-B variety, which makes up a considerable part of the acreage this season, seems quite variable in quality. It appears that it naturally does not test as high in sugar as the 10-25, which was formerly grown almost exclusively and which now is represented by quite an acreage. The mildew also is an important factor in the quality of the stock this season. Ordinarily it does not affect the appearance of the melons,-that is, it does not usually produce a scar or blemish on the fruit. However, it reduces the vitality of the vine and seems to result in a poorer-netted melon and one that lacks somewhat in flavor and is inclined to test lower than would be expected from the outward appearance of the melon. The mildew also has made it difficult to pick at the proper stage, and melons that seem too green to pick one day may be so yellow by the next day that they have to be shipped to nearby markets.

"It has been noticed that cantaloupes showing poor netting and off of mildewed vines do not stay firm as long as usual. If held over in the car or on the shed an extra day, they soon become soft and flabby, while still too green to eat.

"Here the sugar test is generally considered an indication of quality rather than of maturity, although associated possibly with maturity. Some varieties are said to test higher than others. The H-B is said to test lower than the 10-25. Also, the crown-set melons are said to test higher than those from the second and third sets. The closely-netted, well-rounded, high-netted melons are of better quality and test higher than the thinly-netted, flat-netted ones.

"I will be interested to get letters from any of the men as to the carrying of any particular cars of cantaloupes. Also, I will be interested to hear any reactions on any cars of Wax onions, which show green discoloration.

"Please address any letters or wires to me in care of State Dept. of Agriculture, Sacramento, Calif., at all times, until I move to Fresno for the grape deal."

Miss Hall edited this and June 11 issue

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Bureau of Agricultural Economics
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DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 7, NO. 23.
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(Contents Confidential)

1a. SPECIAL FORECASTS ON EARLY POTATOES.

Beginning with June 3 the Department is issuing forecasts of the probable early potato movement from states east of the Rocky Mountains. The forecast is based upon estimates furnished by the various Supervising Inspectors, Market News men and State Statisticians who are in touch with shipping territory and covers an eight day period. The first forecast covers June 3 to 10, inclusive. This will be superseded by forecasts sent in by wire on Sunday night, June 6, for the eight days June 7 to 14, inclusive, and so on through the season. Thus each four-day period is covered by two forecasts, one four days in advance of the other at the beginning of the period, or in other words, the eight day periods of forecasts overlap by four days. The forecast for the first eight days follows this notice and is given as a sample although it is not likely that the Division Letter can carry a full series of these releases. It is planned that they shall be available in Washington at 3:00 P. M. on Monday and Thursday of each week during the remainder of the early potato season.

If this experiment proves successful in furnishing a useful guide to producers and shippers, it is hoped that the service may be extended to other truck crops next season. Both News men and Inspectors should notify interested parties with whom they come in contact that this information or any part of it desired can be obtained by telegram collect from Washington on Monday and Thursday afternoon.

WELLS A. SHERMAN,
Specialist in Charge,
Fruit and Vegetable Division.

2a. FOREIGN NEWS ON APPLES.

The Foreign Marketing Section released on May 24, a mimeographed report F. S.:A-53, entitled Apple Production in England, by Edwin Smith.

3a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR MAY 29.

Page 341 - Summer Products Arriving (weekly review).
" 342 - White County Berry Deal Ended, - by W. G. Lensen.
" 343 - Imperial Valley Canteloupes Early, - by C. E. Schultz.
" 347 - French Fruit Crops Damaged. - ~~(filler)~~
" 352 - Shipments of Truck Crops from Mexican West Coast Increasing.
" 348 - Rio Grande Valley Tomatoes Important, - J. D. Evans.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. SATURDAY HALF-HOLIDAYS BEGIN JUNE 12.

From June 12 to September 11, inclusive, Saturday half-holidays will be in effect and four hours will constitute an official day's work on Saturday. The Washington office will close at 1 o'clock. To assist the force handling market news reports here, it is requested not only that the wires be filed as promptly as possible on Saturdays but that they be given an extra looking-over before filing, so that services may not be necessary.

2b. MIMEOGRAPHED REPORTS IN WASHINGTON.

The daily mimeographed market reports on Apples, which have been published in Washington, were discontinued for the season last Saturday, May 29, Daily bulletins on Tomatoes and on Watermelons were started on Friday, May 28. Peach reports will start Monday, June 7.

3b. GEORGIA PEACHES ARRIVING.

In the report for last Saturday, Pittsburgh advised of the arrival of first Mayflower peaches from Georgia. Six-basket carriers were jobbing at $4.00.

4b. RAPID MOVEMENT OF NEW POTATOES.

Mr. Crosthwait of the Washington office reports that during the last three days of May, 521 cars of potatoes rolled through Potomac Yards en route north. This would average 13 trains of 40 cars each or if in one long train would reach over 5 miles. The shipments are from North and South Carolina principally, with some from Florida.

5b. A GOOD RUBBER STAMP FOR ENVELOPES.

The following suggestion was received from H. A. Harris, of the Los Angeles office, under date of May 21:-

"Answering Par. 3b, Division Letter No. 20, this office has a great deal of trouble with unclaimed or undelivered letters which are returned to the Washington office, for the reason that we probably have 75 to 100 traveling buyers who do not always inform us of their changes in address. Besides, a great many of the growers in southern California are tenants and move about from year to year. For this reason, we have always placed our return address on envelopes used in circularization and have also found it of value to stamp a return address about once a month on the envelopes used for our regular mailing list. We have a special stamp for this, which reads as follows: 'POSTMASTER: DO NOT FORWARD. IF UNDELIVERABLE FOR ANY REASON, RETURN TO 206 WHOLESALE TERMINAL BUILDING, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA.'"

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
June 3, 1926.

PROSPECTIVE SHIPMENTS OF EARLY POTATOES
June 4 - 10.

The B.A.E. estimates the shipments of early potatoes (exclusive of the Pacific Coast) for the period June 4 to June 10 will be about 3,170 cars. It is estimated that about 1,350 cars will move on June 4, 5 and 6, and about 1,820 cars on June 7, 8, 9 and 10.

This estimate is based on conditions and expectations on June 2 as reported by the representatives of the Bureau in the important producing sections. Actual shipments may vary from these estimates if weather or market conditions change greatly or if this report changes the plans of shippers.

Detailed estimates of prospective shipments follow:

	June 4 - 6	June 7 - 10
Ala.	190	190
Ga.	50	100
La.	110	70
N. C.	50	240
S. C.	840	970
All other	110	250
Total	1,350	1,820

Shipments May 27 through June 2: new potatoes, 2,524 cars; old potatoes, 1,620 cars. Shipments last year June 4 - June 10, new potatoes, 2,921 cars; old potatoes, 1,408 cars; May 28 through June 3, new potatoes, 2,759 cars, old potatoes, 2,197 cars.

Oklahoma and Arkansas are just starting; peak expected about June 15 or 20. Louisiana peak occurred during last week in May. South Carolina is at height of shipping right now but heavy shipment is looked for until June 12. Early digging in North Carolina shows light yields. Movement from Norfolk Section will be light until middle of month, then heavy for ten days. No carlot movement from Eastern Shore is looked for before June 12. Peak for Eastern Shore of Virginia expected about July 1.

6b. ADDITION TO "KT" (CANTALOUPE) PAGE OF THE CODE- EFFECTIVE JUNE 11:

On KT (Cantaloupe) page of the code, add
ED Ripes for Western Shipment.

7b. MONTHLY PEANUT REVIEW BEING PREPARED FOR "THE SPICE MILL":

"The Spice Mill," a monthly magazine devoted to the interests of the Coffee, Tea and Spice Trade, has for a number of years contained a section devoted to peanuts. At the request of the editor of this magazine, a monthly review covering the domestic peanut situation is being prepared each month by Mr. Clay, for inclusion in this peanut section.

8b. SHIPMENTS OF TRUCK CROPS FROM MEXICAN WEST COAST INCREASING:

Shipments of fresh vegetables from Sinaloa and Nayarit on the west coast of Mexico are breaking all previous records in spite of losses due to unfavorable weather conditions, insect pests and blight, according to a report of April 20 from Consul H.C. Damm at Nogales, Sonora. The consul states there has been a ready market for the products with good prices. Shipments recorded at the Nogales Consulate during the first quarter of 1925 and 1926 are given below. It must be remembered, however, that these figures refer to those recorded at Nogales only and do not include shipments to the United States certified elsewhere, or shipments going to Canada and other parts of Mexico. The consul added that shipments of tomatoes were still heavy while other vegetables were entering their seasonal decline.

Crop	First quarter 1925	First quarter 1926
	Car loads	Car loads
Lettuce	21	68
Green peppers	54	115
Green peas	191	546
Tomatoes	784	1,562
All others and mixed lots	79	50
Total	1,129	2,341

9b. BERMUDA CELERY MOVING TO NEW YORK.

The Department of Agriculture of Bermuda estimates the 1926 celery crop at 30,000 crates, of two bushels each, from an acreage of 62 1/2 acres, according to a report of May 8, from Vice Consul E. C. Merrel at Hamilton, Bermuda. The Vice Consul states that Bermuda celeyy is grown exclusively for the New York market and that 1,000 crates of the present crop, which is of an unusually high quality, had already been shipped, selling in New York at $6.50 per crate.

B. C. BCREE,
Marketing Specialist.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

Stations	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably will close
MOBILE, ALA.** Custom House	924	H. E. Rutland	Cabbage*	Apr. 19	May 20*
			Potatoes	May 18	June 12
WILMINGTON, N.C.** 102 Custom House	805	R. H. Lamb	Berries	May 1	May 29
			Lettuce	May 6	June 5
			Potatoes	June 1	June 30
			Stg.Beans	June 1	June 30
			Cucumbers	June 15	July 3
EL CENTRO, CALIF. Barbara Worth Hotel	808	C. E. Schultz A. E. Prugh	Cants.	May 11	July 10
POCOMOKE CITY, MD.** Pennisula Bldg.	878	A. W. Schneck A. Stambaugh	Berries	May 21	June 15
			Potatoes	June 15	July 31
MONETT, MO. Bldg. First National Bank/	857	H. W. Mosier	Berries	May 25	June 15
CHARLESTON, S. C. Chamber of Commerce	858	J.W. Park	Potatoes	May 24	June 19
LEESBURG, FLA.**	832	R.L. Sutton	W-melons	May 28	June 26
			Tomatoes	June 1	June 19
MACON, GA.**	833	R.H. Shoemaker	Peaches	June 7	July 24
CRYSTAL SPRINGS, MISS.	809	J.D. Evers	Tomatoes	June 4	June 30
JACKSONVILLE, TEXAS	811	W.F. Cox	Tomatoes	June 3	June 30
ELIZABETH CITY, N.C.	810	W.G. Lensen	Potatoes	June 4	June 30

** State Cooperating.

* Reports discontinued.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. MARKING CAR CARDS TO SHOW GRADES.

On May 25, F. Earl Parsons of the Virginia Division of Markets wrote to Mr. Bier as follows:

"At the time of our Norfolk meeting you will recall we discussed the matter of marking car cards as regards grade. Although it may not always be carried out I have requested my inspectors on the Eastern Shore to pencil the back of the car card with the indication of the manner in which they have graded the lot. G standing for the entire lot meeting grade, * indicates that the entire lot is out of grade and # indicating that part of the lot is in and part out of grade. All cars are being chalked with the Virginia designation, date, etc. and cards tacked therein. We are not attempting to send notices or lists of cars inspected to the various markets or station offices, but it will be done when the potato shipments start.

"The Norfolk office will open about June 1st, at 308 Southern Produce Building, Norfolk, which is the same address as we had last year. I plan to be there part of the time myself but expect that Robert J. Rea will more or less be in charge of the men, and supervise their work, while Mr. Henderson will endeavor to check the writing of certificates and assist in so far as his time and other Federal duties will permit."

2c. MISSOURI AND NORTHWEST ARKANSAS NOTES.

The following letter of May 28, was received from Geo. M. Winfrey at Van Buren, Arkansas:

"The berry crop in Northwest Arkansas has been greatly reduced by dry weather -- reports have come down that already the loss amounts to 50% and will increase considerably in the next few days unless they get some rain. I am enclosing the last of our berry certificates--as we have discontinued the work at Rogers account the reduced crop.

"Starting today we will have a few cars of cabbage, and beginning next week we should have quite a few cars of Triumph potatoes, and a little later beans. May have a few cars of blackberries June 7 to July 1st. The pink tomato deal will start at Monticello around June 5th. At present, I intend to have the certificates typed here, They estimate anywhere from 100 to 150 cars there."

3c. EARLY POTATOES IN WEST VIRGINIA:

J. J. Gardner of the Pittsburgh office, after a conference with Commissioner Smith at Charleston, W. Va., reports as follows:

"The Commissioner is very anxious to have the shipping-point inspection on the early potatoes, which will begin to move in the vicinity of Parkersburg about July 25th and wind up in vicinity of Elkins the latter part of August. Inspection will probably be made only in the vicinity of three points, which follow one another in time of digging. Probably not more than sixty cars will be inspected and, because of the fact that the digging comes in succession, one man, or possibly two for a limited time, will be able to take care of the work.

The next three items are from California Inspectors' Notes, May 21 and 28.

4c. CANTALOUPE SITUATION CAUSES CONCERN (May 21)

Latest word from Sam Preston, in charge of cantaloupe inspection in the Imperial Valley, indicates that the mildew condition is becoming very serious in that district. The type of mildew which is attacking the vines this season does not appear to behave like the usual variety, in that it thrives on the hot weather and does not respond to the usual dust treatment.

"The present extent of damage seems to be estimated at around 50% for the earlier acreages and probably 25% to the later patches so far," writes Preston. "This may increase or decrease as the season advances. The weakened condition of the vines is believed to be responsible for the fact that some of the crown set melons are barely testing the 9% which is required by law. It is probable that should later melons mature on these vines they would not meet the required 9%"

Alarmed by the rapid spread of the fungus, many of the growers have dusted their vines with various commercial sulphur preparations, which in some cases have apparently proved as disastrous as the mildew. Sulphurs cut down to about 40% with lime have been extensively used, and many growers attribute the burning action of this sort of dust to the fact that the vines had become weakened by the mildew. In one instance, however, a grower dusted 40 acres with a widely used crude sulphur ore preparation as a preventative measure before any mildew became apparent. This patch is a total loss and no cantaloupes will be harvested.

It is said that an airplane was hired at $200.00 per flying-hour to sweep over the plantings and scatter dust on the vines, and after signing the contract growers were baffled by the problem of finding a preparation which could be used with safety to the plants.

Dr. Milbrath, Pathologist of the California Department of Agriculture, and E. E. Conklin of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics are among those who have gone to the Valley to investigate conditions. Mr. Conklin is investigating especially the carrying quality of the melons from the injured vines. Instances have been noted where melons, which were apparently of U. S. No. 1 quality when loaded, did not hold up over night in a refrigerator car.

At least 20 to 25 cars of melons are being Federal-State inspected daily.

5c. IMPERIAL CANTALOUPE SITUATION UNCHANGED (May 28)

The condition of the Imperial Valley cantaloupe crop is practically the same as last week according to E. E. Conklin who was there recently. A crude sulphur-ore dust has apparently given the best control of the mildew, and some growers declare this proprietary preparation has been very satisfactory. The airplane which was to fly over the plantings and scatter dust was delayed in arriving and had not been put in operation when Conklin left the Valley last week. Many growers had dusted their plantings with hand or power dusters, however. It is too early to obtain any accurate idea of the efficacy of the dust.

6c. IMPROVEMENT NOTED IN COACHELLA BERMUDAS MAY 28.

"The quality and tonnage of the late yellow Bermuda onions in the Coachella Valley is showing up better than was expected a short time ago," said E. E. Conklin, who just returned from a week's trip in the Coachella and Imperial Valleys. The first estimatesof some 1260 cars for the deal had been lowered on account of the sub-normal yield of the early Crystal Wax onions so that many shippers predicted only 900 to 1,000 cars for the season. The present harvestings of yellows, however, are showing a much better yield and popular estimates have been raised to 1150 to 1200 cars. Some growers are averaging as high as one car of onions per acre.

The former trouble with green discoloration is practically over and now the late Yellows are generally of very good quality. A few shipments of Crystal Wax are inferior on account of the fact that it is past their normal harvesting time, but even these do not show the green discoloration as was formerly the case. Many of the Yellows are running to large sizes and many certificates state that a portion of the load grades U. S. No. 1 Large. A few fields are showing quite a few pinks and an occasional car of Yellows is being graded U. S. 1 Pink. Other growers are finding it profitable to sort all the pink onions out in the field and are making straight U. S. No. 1 grade.

Approximately 800 cars had been shipped when Mr. Conklin left the Valley May 24 and over 600 of these, or about 80%, had been Federal-State inspected. Two hundred and fifty nine inspections were made by the eleven inspectors who were working in the Coachella Valley last week, making the total inspections 557 to that date.

7c. BERRY SITUATION AT MONETT, MISSOURI.

On May 27, N. D. Sanborn wrote as follows from Monett:

Conditions here up until about six days ago were highly favorable for a bumper crop and a very good season. Sufficient rain at that time and since would have worked out as anticipated. The damage from the drouth became noticeable three or four days ago and unusually warm weather since has practically ruined the prospects for the crop at the present time. Judging from reports of factors still interested in the deal, and from personal investigation, it seems that close to three fourths of the crop has been lost and unless there is rain within the next day or so the deal is practically over.

8c. NOTES ON GEORGIA PEACH INSPECTIONS.

O. G. Straus, reports from Macon, Ga., that the following dealers are requesting inspections of peaches:

Denny and Co. - - - - - - - - - - - 1000 to 1200 cars.
Georgia Peach Exchange- - - - - - 1000 to 1200 cars.
Crutcher and Woolfolk - - - - - - 400 to 500 cars.

Mayflowers are still moving some. Uneedas will not do much if anything before Monday. Inspections will start at about that time. Altogether, it seems the deal will be about as large this year as last though not as large as at first expected.

(See 9c - continued on Page 333)

TEMPORARY HEADQUARTERS OF EASTERN AND SOUTHERN SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION DEALS

State	Federal Supervisor	Products	Approx. date of Opening	Approx. date of Closing
FLORIDA:	J. C. Townsend, Jr., Box 629, Palmetto, Fla.	Tomatoes	Apr. 26	June 5
TEXAS:	C. D. Shirley, Harlingen, Texas	Vegetables	Jan. 1	June 15
	H. T. Longino, Jacksonville, Texas	Tomatoes	June 1	June 30
	R. C. Lindstrom, McKinney, Texas	Onions	June 3	June 25
ARKANSAS:	G. W. Winfrey, Van Buren, Ark.	Cabbage	May 28	June 7
MISSISSIPPI:	F. S. Kinsey, Crystal Springs, Miss.	Vegetables	May 3	June 26
VIRGINIA:	H. A. Schaible, P. O. Box 126, Cape Charles, Va.	Cabbage Potatoes	May 24 June 10	June 19 July 24
MARYLAND:	H. W. Schneck, Pocomoke City, Md.	Berries Potatoes	May 21 June 15	June 19 July 31
GEORGIA:	O. G. Strauss, G. R. Warren, Hotel Macon, Macon, Ga.	Peaches	June 1	July 31
OKLAHOMA:	A. C. Gregory, Hugo, Okla.	Potatoes	June 1	July 3
The following stations closed on or about dates indicated:				
TENNESSEE:	J. A. Marks, County Court House, Chattanooga, Tenn.	Berries	May 10	May 29
MISSOURI:	N. D. Sanborn, Monett, Mo.	Berries	May 20	May 29

NOTE: Supervisors should promptly send corrections of data in above columns.

(continued from Page 331)

9c. CAUSE OF SCALD ON NEW POTATOES

In connection with the subject of scald on new potatoes, the attention of inspectors is again directed to the memorandum of Dr. Link on that subject and the accompanying observations of Mr. Conklin, both contained in the Division Letter of May 8, 1925, paragraph 3c.

Robert Bier,
Supervising Inspector

GRADES AND STANDARDIZATION

1d. REVIEW OF MR. SAMSON'S WESTERN TRIP

H. W. Samson returned Wednesday to Washington after an extensive trip to the Northwest, California and Colorado.

While on the coast, Mr. Samson held many conferences and interviews with growers, shippers and members of the trade for the purpose of preventing a repetition of the past year's experience in regard to arsenical spray residue. There is reason to believe that every effort will be made to correct this situation.

Mr. Samson had an opportunity to discuss U. S. Grades with our representatives and with members of the trade, and as a result certain changes will be made. Especially a modification of U. S. Lettuce Grades will be made with respect to solidity of heads. It is hoped this revision will be ready for distribution by July 1, to accommodate shippers of the Northwest, and Mountain States.

Mr. Samson plans to visit some of the leading markets within ten days to check up some of the observation made at shipping points.

2d. GRADES FOR SWEET CHERRIES, DEWBERRIES AND BLACKBERRIES

With this issue of the Division Letter, U. S. Grades for Sweet Cherries, and U. S. Grades for Dewberries and Blackberries are being mailed to all inspectors.

H. W. SAMSON,
Specialist in Standardization

OFFICE NOTES:

R. G. Hill who reported for duty at the Washington office June 1, left immediately for a trip to the asparagus sections of New Jersey and nearby points in Pennsylvania. He will be accompanied by Mr. Sherburne of the New Jersey Department of Agriculture, and Mr. James of the Pennsylvania Department. They will interview shippers and growers with regard to any necessary revisions of asparagus grades.

W. H. Steinbauer has suffered a breakdown in health and has been ordered to his home in Michigan for several weeks rest. At present, the work of the Newark office is being handled by the New York force.

A. H. Polster of the New York office was called home because of the serious illness of his father.

K. R. Nutting has been transferred from Santa Maria and will work in the Stockton district for several weeks, after which he may be addressed c/o State Department of Agriculture, Sabastopol. His Stockton address is c/o Herbert Spangenberg, County Horticultural Commissioner.

Congratulations are extended to Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Allewelt on the arrival of a son "Billy" on May 29.

Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Snow of Denver are happy also over the arrival of John Dow Jr. on May 25.

N. D. Sanborn left Monett May 29, and stopped in St. Louis a short while enroute to New York where he will assist in inspection work.

Edwin Smith's Spokane address is 423 Federal Building.

E. W. Stillwell is spending Thursday and Friday of this week in San Francisco.

G. A. DeHaven of the Kansas City office has been ordered to his home with a slight case of measles. Mr. Branch will handle the Market News work in his absence.

The telephone number of the New Orleans inspection office has been changed from Main 3178 to Jackson 5584.

W. G. Lensen left Washington for Elizabeth City, N. C., June 2. Before he left we gathered the belated news that Mr. Lensen was married several months ago to Miss Kathryn SeeBurger of Riga, Michigan.

Friends of John J. Sullivan formerly with the Fruit and Vegetable Division, will be pleased to learn that "Sully" is wearing a broader smile than ever due to the arrival last Sunday of a son and heir. We understand that Mr. Sullivan is very successful in business.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau ofAgricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL 7, NO. 24.
June 11, 1926.
(Contents Confidential)

1a. ECHOES OF A SUCCESSFUL SEASON.

The following excerpt from a recent editorial in "The Times-Picayune," New Orleans, comments on the recent successful strawberry season at Hammond, La., which was terminated by a two-day festival:

"Just a few years ago Tangipahoa grew only a few berries, scarcely more than were taken by the New Orleans market. But the advent of shipping facilities, the organization of handling and marketing associations and above all the astonishing receiption given the Louisiana berry in distant markets, transformed a former lumber parish into a berry paradise. This industry during the current season has put six and a quarter million dollars into the pockets of the berry growers, a flood of wealth of which New Orleans as big neighbor will win her share. Today our city counts the berry district one of her great suburban assets and it was right that many prominent Orleanians should have gone to Hammond to participate in the festival given as a climax to the most successful season on record."

2a. SUMMARIES OF FIELD DEALS RELEASED.

Mimeographed summaries of field deals recently distributed are:-
Utah Onion Deal- Season 1925- by Walter Kingsbury.
Colorado Lettuce Deal-Season 1925- (Including information on Colorado Peas, Cauliflower, Cabbage, Celery, and Mixed Vegetables.)- by John D. Snow.
Review of the Rio Grande Valley Texas Potato Deal - Season 1926, by J. D. Evers.

3a. REPORTS ON FOREIGN CROPS.

The Foreign Marketing Section issued the following mimeographed reports recently:- F.S.:W-8, "The Walnut Situation in France". F.S.:F-25, "British and German Fruit Imports in April". F.S.:F-26, "Northern Hemisphere Fruit Prospects". F.S.:O-31, "Egyptian Onion Shipments".

4a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR JUNE 5.

Page 357- Prices Tending Downard (Weekly Review).
" 358- Large Returns for Cranberries.
" 359- Successful Potato Season in Colorado, by John D. Snow.
" 360- High prices for Maine Potatoes, by H. E. Rutland.
" 368- United States Tomato Imports Increasing.
" " - Spanish Onions May Be Smaller.
" " - Egyptian Onion Shipments.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. NEWS FROM KERN COUNTY CALIFORNIA.

The following interesting letter from H. A. Harris, Los Angeles, was written to Mr. Boree June 2:

"On May 31 Mr. Stillwell and I drove through the Palmdale and Tehatchapi pear districts and the producing districts of Kern County. Our trip through the pear districts confirmed reports that the growers had succeeded in stopping the spread of the pear blight which caused serious losses last season. We saw practically no blight although we did notice a number of orchards in a poor state of cultivation, badly grown up with weeds and grass. Several orchards did not look thrifty or vigorous, possibly on account of the past two dry seasons. The Palmdale district is in a good position as far as water is concerned, inasmuch as the April rains filled their new reservoir which had been dry for a year after its completion and which gives them a two-year supply of irrigation water. The set of fruit upon the trees was generally light with occasional orchards showing a good set.

"Harvesting of apricots and plums was under way in the Kern Mesa district with the earlier varieties of apricots all gone. Practically all of this fruit moves to Los Angeles market by motor truck. The acreage of cantaloupes in this district is strikingly less than last year, being probably no more than required for local markets.

"Potato harvest in the Shafter district is well under way. The growers generally speak of 150 sacks to the acre as being the average yield for the district and it seems to them that the yield is less than last year. However, it seems to me from following the digger that the potatoes are turning out about the same as in previous seasons. The quality is variable as much good, bad and indifferent seed was used. Some fields show Burbank type, others the so-called Wisconsin Pride - both being from Stockton grown seed, while perhaps only one-half showed good White Rose type. Occasional scab was noticed in several fields but not serious.

"The tuber moth is getting in its work earlier than ever before with additional fields being disqualified for Northwestern shipments every day. This is a very serious matter since the Northwestern markets are comparatively good. The Los Angeles market is loaded with local potatoes in lugs and does not offer an outlet for more than a limited amount of Shafter stock."

2b. GEORGIA PEACH MOVEMENT SLOW IN STARTING.

According to information received from R. H. Shoemaker, Macon, Ga., there are only scattering shipments of Uneedas this week, general movement not expected before June 12. Quoting from Mr. Shoemaker's letter dated June 1:

"There seems to be a lot of green foliage on peaches here from what I can learn and this is undoubtedly retarding the ripening process. Had a light rain today, but need a lot more as there seems to be some apprehension regarding the large size reported, although it is too soon yet to say what the size will be."

3b. ALABAMA POTATO MOVEMENT LIGHT.

The potato movement from Baldwin County, Alabama is practically over. Some shipments remain in Mobile County yet; and the section around Atmore is about half through. Only 50 or 75 cars remain in Baldwin County, mostly in the northern part close to Bay Minette, but with few around Loxley. A few cars are still being shipped from Foley and Robertsdale but shipments from these places will be over by the middle of next week.

The yield around Atmore and Andalusia is disappointingly light. Former estimates by local shippers in these sections are now being reduced about one-half. First cars from Atmore were shipped May 31, and fields dug in loading them yielded less than 100 bushels per acre. It is likely that these two places will about finish digging by June 12. About 150 cars are expected from Brewton, which will move this week or next.

The market in Baldwin County strengthened slightly the last of last week and on June 7, sacked Bliss Triumphs were selling mostly at $3.25 per 100 pounds f.o.b. usual terms for U. S. #1. A few Spaulding Rose (about 15 cars) are being shipped from near Silverhill and are selling at $3.25-3.50 per sack. Cobblers from the south end of Mobile County show very light yields but are of good size and are selling at the same price as Triumphs.

RECORD OF SERVICES OVER LEASED WIRE DURING MAY, 1926.

Name of Market Serviced	Total Number of Services to Markets	Errors by Markets	Telegraphic Errors	Insufficient Information by Markets	Unclassified Services to Markets	Unnecessary Services ***	Unanswered Services	Voluntary Corrections ***
Atlanta	6	2	2	1	-	-	1	1
Baltimore	8	3	1	1	3	-	-	5
Boston	30	17	6	2	4	-	1	6
Chicago	44	20	11	8	5	-	-	6
Cincinnati	15	6	4	2	2	-	1	1
Fort Worth*	15	8	-	2	4	-	1	-
Kansas City	28	9	7	3	6	2	1	1
Minneapolis	5	4	-	-	-	-	1	1
New York	28	10	22	5	10	-	1	11
Omaha	4	-	2	1	1	-	-	-
Philadelphia	30	12	2	5	9	-	2	11
Pittsburgh	21	5	12	3	1	-	-	7
St. Louis	19	2	11	-	5	-	1	11
Washington	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13
Total May	253	98	60	33	50	2	10	74
Total April	297	114	81	47	50	-	5	94

*Including Dallas. **Not included in the Total *** by Washington.

4b. APPRECIATION OF CHICAGO ANNUAL REPORT.

W. H. Hall of the Chicago Market News office has received many letters thanking him for his annual report, of which the following from Denny and Co. may be considered a fair sample:-

"We are in receipt of your summary of various shipments and reports of Chicago markets for the past year, and this is of very considerable value to us. We expect to use this to refer to from time to time for years to come. We have the other years' reports in our files, and they are very interesting and valuable in making operations from time to time, and we would not be without them, if it is necessary to pay considerable price to secure them." B.C.B.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

Stations	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably will close
WILMINGTON, N.C. ** 102 Custom House	805	R. H. Lamb	Berries Lettuce Potatoes Stg.Bean Cucumber	May 1 May 6 June 1 June 1 June 15	May 29 June 12 June 30 June 30 July 3
EL CENTRO, CALIF. Barbara North Hotel	808	C. E. Schultz A. E. Prugh	Cants.	May 11	July 10
POCOMOKE CITY, MD. ** Peninsula Bldg.	878	A. W. Schneck A. Stambaugh	Berries Potatoes	May 21 June 15	June 15 July 31
LONETT, MO. First Nat'l.Bank Bldg	857	H.M. Mosier	Berries	May 25	June 15
CHARLESTON, S.C. Chamber of Commerce	858	J. W. Park	Potatoes	May 24	June 19
LEESBURG, FLA. ** Miley-Coulson Bldg, Room 11,P.O. Box 591	832	R. L. Sutton	W-melons Tomatoes	May 28 May 28	June 26 June 25
MACON, GA. * * 620 Bibb Realty Bldg.	833	R. H. Shoemaker	Peaches	June 7	July 24
CRYSTAL SPRGS.,MISS. Howell Bldg.	809	J.D. Evers	Tomatoes	June 5	June 30
JACKSONVILLE, TEXAS ** First Nat'l Bank Bldg	811	W. F. Cox	Tomatoes	June 4	June 30
ELIZABETH CITY, N.C. Chamber of Commerce	810	W. G. Lensen	Potatoes	June 7	June 30

The following station closed on date indicated.

MOBILE, Ala. ** Custom House	924	H. E. Rutland	Cabbage* Potatoes	April 19 May 18	May 20 * June 12

** State Cooperating. * Reports discontinued.

INSPECTION SERVICE.

1c. REPORTS FOR ZELTROCIDE COMPANY

The following is quoted from a letter recently received from Mr. Zelling regarding inspections of Florida citrus fruit made at their request or at the request of others on any lots known to have been treated by this process.

"Your inspectors in makeing inspection on cars of fruit treated with Zeltrocide when fruit fails to grade specify on their report that fruit fails to meet United States grades No. 1 on account of certain conditions. When this notation is made on the Inspection Report it prevents the shipper from collecting his insurance which we carry for him.

"If the fruit inspected fails to meet U. S. grades No. 1 and will meet U. S. grades No. 2 we would be glad to have this notation made on the inspection, or if it fails to meet either grade we would like to have that notation on the Inspection Report as well."

If fruit fails to meet the specifications of No. 2 it will be satisfactory to certify it as meeting the requirements of U. S. No. 3 if such is the case. Otherwise the statement, "Fails to meet requirements of U. S. Grade No. 2" will be satisfactory.

2c. ATTENTION CHERRY INSPECTORS

Referring to cherry inspections F. E. Bailey of Spokane, Wash. reports:

"This season the matter of doubles is very serious. Where a double has developed equally in both of its halves, and is mature, the cherry will not be scored as a defect. However, such cherries should never be packed in the face of a box. Where one half of a double is mummified or dried or delayed in development to any extent so that it is decidedly behind the other half in maturity, the cherry will be scored as a defect."

The following wire was received from B. E. Shaffer at Yakima, Wash., June 9:

"The Yakima Fruit Growers' Association, packers of 'Big Y' will send boxes stemless cherries to our offices East of Mississippi including New Orleans and St. Louis in regular cars. Advise our office to look for these shipments. They will be advised by shippers by wire collect."

Inspectors are requested to note whether doubles have split and have decay following, and to write their observations direct to B. E. Shaffer, 423 Federal Building, Spokane, Wash.

3c. POTATO INSPECTION IN OKLAHOMA

On June 4, M. C. Gregory wrote to Mr. Bier in regard to Oklahoma inspections:

"The potato inspection work in Oklahoma during the next ten days will be along the Red River valley in the southern part of the State, and we have made our temporary headquarters at Hugo. A few scattering cars are being shipped this week but digging will commence throughout the territory next Monday if the weather permits.

"When the season opens in the Arkansas River valley, we plan on moving our office to Muskogee and handle the work there the same as last year."

4c. EFFECTS OF BRUISING ON STRAWBERRIES.

Before leaving Chattanooga, Tenn., J. A. Marks wrote to Mr. Hackleman June 5, about the experiments conducted there in regard to the effect of bruising on strawberries:

"The experiments I made were not as thorough, nor did they cover as wide a variety of conditions as I would have liked. As you know, it has been rather dry here all season, so there has been little chance for any real "rain damage" to develop. However, the results of my experiments, if you can call them that, bear out the idea I have had that the sunken, discolored spots so often found on berries are almost entirely a matter of bruising, even when associated with a sandy condition and decay. Naturally there is heavier decay in rainy damp weather and, too, a berry grown under those conditions is more watery and more easily bruised. Sand alone can not be taken as an evidence of heavy rains for under clean cultivation, in light soils, or where plants have been dug between the rows in the spring, even a light shower will cause the berries to be quite dirty. However where there is considerable Leather Rot associated with the sand and bruising it would be safe, I think, to conclude the rain fall had been heavy enought to injure the stock. While the rainfall was very heavy in Louisiana this year, I saw a number of cars that except for Leather Rot showed little evidence of damage from rain. The mulching they practice down there kept most of the stock clean.

"The experiments were made at Cleveland and the berries used were kept in a refrigerator car for about a week. They were picked very carefully to make sure they were not bruised before I got them. A few cups were set aside as a check, then the others were bruised in different ways. We poured some of them out in grading pans from 2 to 6 times. Others we bruised by shaking about in the cups or from filling too full and mashing them down with the divider and in other ways.

"We found that you could pour the berries into grading pans 2 or 3 times without appreciable injury if the stock was firm and care was taken not to bruise the stock unnecessarily. Dumping them back and fourth 4 times (8 in all) even if done with some care, resulted in noticeable bruising to most of the berries. This sort of bruising resulted in a considerable part of the surface of the berry becoming discolored but the bruised areas were generally not deep. Deep bruises on firm stock I found generally due to too full pack or pressing the berries down in the cup too heavily in leveling or facing them off. Another source of bruising, of course, is rough handling by the pickers. It can be largely avoided by catching the berry just back of the cap and pinching off the stem and depositing the picked berries in the cups before the hands get too full.

"We have found that bruising, while not generally noticeable the first day unless severe enough that the berries are wet and "bleeding", is quite readily apparent the second day when the discoloration has had time to show up. By watching for this we have caught several growers who were picking their berries one day and hauling them in fairly early the next day when they could get unloaded more promptly. I believe the discoloration does not develop much after their second day, though the bruised areas may get soft and develop decay. If the refrigeration is reasonably good I do not believe a slight bruise injures the carrying quality of a berry materially, particularly where it has a chance to dry out. If it is deep and kept moist it is pretty certain to develop mold and decay.

"The stock we kept in the car developed gray mold and Rhizopus Rots on severely bruised berries by the fourth day. Temperatures, however, were above those secured under average refrigeration because the cars were opened 3 or 4 hours a day to load berries. I would have much preferred keeping them somewhere at more uniform temperatures."

5c. GRADES FOR POTATOES EASTERN SHORE OF VIRGINIA.

For the convenience of our inspectors, we are publishing below a copy of this season's potato-grading rules of the Eastern Shore of Virginia. These grades are loading point specifications, prepared for the guidance of the farmers and the loading point inspectors. They do not apply in full to destination inspections or guarantees. The Exchange writes, "Our brand requirements are exactly the same as those of last year. The Star Brand is sold to meet the requirements of the U.S. No.1, grade. The Bell and Gearwheel Brands are sold to meet the requirements of the U.S. No.1, with the exception of size. The minimum size of the Bell Brand is 1 3/4", and the Gearwheel 1½".

EASTERN SHORE OF VIRGINIA PRODUCE EXCHANGE
Grading and Packing Rules for Irish Potatoes

S T A R B R A N D

Minimum diameter 1 7/8 inches, not to include more than 10 per cent under 2 inch diameter.

This grade shall consist of sound potatoes of similar varietal characteristics, which are free of soft rot, scab, sun-scald, sun greening and practically free from dirt or other foreign matter, second growth, cuts, dry rot and damage caused by diseases and insects, mechanical or other means. Unless specific arrangements have been made with the Exchange to use other containers, the potatoes shall be packed in U.S. Standard Barrels, properly filled. This grade must be reported to the office STAR "S" grade, straight or short mark cars, as the case may be.

STAR BRAND "Special"

Minimum diameter 2 inches, not to include more than 10 per cent under 2¼ inch diameter.

This grade shall conform to all the requirements of the STAR BRAND, except in the size requirements as noted above. This grade shall be reported to the main office as STAR "A" grade.

B E L L B R A N D

Minimum Diameter 1 3/4 inches, not to include more than 10 per cent under 1 7/8 inch diameter.

This grade shall consist of potatoes of similar varietal characteristics, which are free from soft rot and sun-scald, and from material damage caused by dirt, second growth, sun greening, cuts, scab, diseases, insects, mechanical or other means. Potatoes that do not fully meet the grade requirements of the STAR BRAND, due to staining, dirt, slight tinge of sun greening and other defects, as well as to smaller size, may be placed in this grade, provided, all the defects combined will not cause a loss of more than 10 per cent in preparing the potatoes for use over that which would normally occur if the potatoes were perfect. However, not more than 5 per cent of slightly scab pitted potatoes or more than 5 per cent of slight tinge of sun greening will be permitted in this trade. This grade must be reported to the main office as BELL "B" grade.

(Continued over)

G E A R W H E E L B R A N D

Minimum diameter 1½ inches.

This grade shall conform to all the requirements of the BELL BRAND, except size requirements as noted. This grade shall be reported to the main office as GEARWHEEL "G" grade.

In order to allow for unavoidable variations, incident to proper grading and handling, a tolerance is permitted in each brand if not more than 5 per cent below the prescribed size when the potatoes are inspected at destination. This shall not be construed to mean that the grower may include 5 per cent below the minimum requirements when the potatoes are graded in the field. The barrels are properly filled when they are well rounded above the chime after they are hauled to the shipping station. The barrel should be shaken as it is filled, otherwise it will be slack if hauled any distance, even though rounded three or four inches above the barrel level before the cover is put on.

6c. LOUISIANA AND MISSISSIPPI VEGETABLES.

The following notes are from a recent letter of C. R. Newton at Baton Rouge,

Tomato movement from Louisiana will not start in volume before July 1.

Bean inspections have been very few in number, due to the fact that practically all of the beans in Louisiana were badly spotted with anthracnose and other discolorations which made them very unattractive, and shippers did not want inspections. The beans at Centreville do not seem to be affected this way at all.

There will be some sweet pepper inspections at Ponchatoula and around Houma.

Potato inspections will be practically over by June 12, with total cars inspected around 400.

7c. GRAPE GRADES DISCUSSED WITH CALIFORNIA FRUIT DISTRIBUTORS. (INSPECTORS' NOTES JUNE 4.)

The proposed changes in the U.S. Grades were the subject of discussion at a meeting of the California Fruit Distributors June 1 in San Francisco, at which Mr. Allewelt, Bert Conklin, S.S. Rogers and Peterson were in attendance. Revisions were favored by the C_F_D_ representatives, except that it was thought inadvisable to require table grapes to be in lidded lugs or crates and to be packed with the stems uniformly up or down to meet the requirements for U.S. Fancy. It was felt that the U.S. Grades should be specifications of quality and condition and should not attempt to regulate the packing of the product.

The proposed change in the grade for juice grapes stating that not "more than 10 per cent by weight of the bunches in any container" shall be affected by mold or decay was thought to be impracticable, since nearly any bunch of grapes is apt to contain one moldy berry. It was suggested that the statement be changed to read "not more than 10 per cent of the bunches shall show a cluster of berries showing mold and decay." A cluster meaning several berries forming a "nest" of mold.

TEMPORARY HEADQUARTERS OF EASTERN AND SOUTHERN SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION DEALS

State	Federal Supervisor	Products	Approx. date of Opening	Approx. date of Closing
TEXAS:	C. D. Shirley, Harlingen, Texas	Vegetables	Jan. 1	June 15
	H. T. Longino, Jacksonville, Texas	Tomatoes	June 1	June 30
	R. C. Lindstrom, Farmersville, Texas	Onions	June 3	June 25
ARKANSAS:	G. W. Winfrey, Van Buren, Ark.	Cabbage Beans Blackberries	May 28 June 5 June 4	June 12 June 18 June 18
MISSISSIPPI:	F. S. Kinsey, Crystal Springs, Miss.	Vegetables	May 3	June 26
VIRGINIA:	K. W. Schaible, P. O. Box 126, Cape Charles, Va.	Cabbage Potatoes	May 24 June 10	June 19 July 24
MARYLAND:	H. W. Schneck, Pocomoke City, Md.	Berries Potatoes	May 21 June 15	June 19 July 31
GEORGIA:	O. G. Strauss, Hotel Macon, Macon, Ga.	Peaches	June 1	July 31
	J. C. Townsend, Marshallville, Ga.	Peaches	June 11	July 31
	J. A. Marks, Fort Valley, Ga.	Peaches	June 11	July 31
OKLAHOMA:	M. C. Gregory, Hugo, Okla.	Potatoes	June 1	July 3

The following station closed on or about dates indicated:

FLORIDA:	J. C. Townsend, Jr. Box 629, Palmetto, Fla.	Tomatoes	Apr. 26	June 5

NOTE: Supervisors should promptly send corrections of data in above columns.

8c. PRODUCTS CIRCULAR ON CANTALOUPES.

A revised edition of the Products Circular on cantaloupes was mailed to all inspectors early this week. If any one failed to get a copy it will be supplied promptly on request.

9c. ENCLOSURE - MEMORANDUM NO. 58 REVISED.

Memorandum - No. 58, Food Products Inspection Service, is mailed to all inspectors with this Division Letter.

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

GRADES AND STANDARDIZATION

The next two items are from Shipping-point Inspectors' Letter, Spokane, Wash., June 2.

1d. SMITH VISITS NORTHWEST.

Edwin Smith, Specialist in Foreign Marketing with the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, who for the past eighteen months has made his headquarters at London, England, is now in the Northwest, conferring with traffic associations and shippers who are interested in our European export market for apples. Mr. Smith is giving special attention to warning shippers of the seriousness of the arsenical spray residue situation in England during the past season. Mr. Smith's itinerary will be about as follows: June 1st and 2nd, Seattle; 3rd to 6th, Wenatchee; 7th and 8th, Yakima; 9th, Olympia; 10th to 13th, open dates; 14th or 15th, Spokane; 16th to 18th, Boise, Idaho. Anyone desiring to communicate with Mr. Smith during his stay in the Northwest may write him in care of the traffic associations at Wenatchee or Yakima on the dates he is to be there in care of J. I. Griner at Olympia, or in care of the Spokane office.

2d. SHAFFER BEGINS WORK.

B. E. Schaffer, standardization specialist from Mr. Sampson's office, arrived in Walla Walla on May 28 and began his studies for the purpose of writing sweet cherry grades. Mr. Schaffer will work in the Milton-Freewater section of Oregon and the Lewiston-Clarkston section of Idaho and Washington until about June 3, when he will start a trip up the Yakima Valley, visiting various cherry loading stations in that valley and later on will visit Wenatchee and The Dalles. With the close of cherry shipments east of the mountains, Mr. Schaffer will go to western Washington and Oregon where he will study the sweet cherries which will be harvested there at that time and also may make some studies of raspberries, blackberries and other bramble fruits produced on the west side, forthe purpose of drafting some tentative grades for these commodities.

With the opening of the onion season at Walla Walla, Mr. Schaffer will return to Walla Walla to make some studies of the summer onion crop.

H. W. SAMSON,
Specialist in Standardization.

Memorandum No. 58. (revised) June 10, 1926

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

FOOD PRODUCTS INSPECTION SERVICE

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A representative of the Eastern Shore Virginia Produce Exchange has requested that telegraphic reports of all receiving point inspections of their cars whether requested by the Exchange itself or by some other party be forwarded them promotly, charges collect. In case the inspection is made at the request of another party copy of certificate with the usual fee bill for $1.00 should follow by mail.

The Exchange also requests that certificates and wires on their shipments make it very plain whether or not the car as a whole is up to grade. If the statement "aside from decay lot grades U. S. No. 1" is made the exact percentage of decay should be shown. They also desire the certificates and wires to state the approximate amount of up to grade barrels in a car which as a whole is out of grade. Wires and certificates should also give the approximate portion of load remaining in car in cases of restricted certificates.

This request emphasizes the desire of the trade for exact information which can be used in settling claims for allowances. Every effort should be made by inspectors to satisfy this desire.

In making inspections for the Eastern Shore of Virginia Produce Exchange before cars are unloaded, inspectors should report conditions both in the doorways and in the ends of cars in addition to averages. This information is requested by the Exchange in order to secure data on decay of potatoes in box cars due to lack of ventilation in the ends of the car.

Address all wires on such inspections to Eastern Shore Virginia Produce Exchange, Onley, Va.

OFFICE NOTES

H. W. Samson will go to Chicago June 14 to confer with members of the staff there in regard to grades for various fruits and vegetables.

R. G. Hill will go to the Carolinas June 15 to discuss grades for dewberries and cucumbers with State Marketing officials, shippers and growers.

W. E. Lewis will take ten days leave in Providence, R. I. En route, Mr. Lewis will stop in Philadelphia and New York to investigate grades for green corn.

R. L. Davis is in Memphis this week visiting package factories in nearby towns. He will be in Little Rock on Friday.

J. G. Cross was in New York June 7 to June 10, when he left for Montreal to confer with railroad officials in regard to Canadian imports. He will be back in New York the first of the week, returning to Washington about Wednesday.

On closing Monett, H. W. Mosier will proceed to Ft. Worth and then to Collin Co., Texas, to supervise the shipping point inspection of onions.

H. E. Rutland will leave Mobile and stop at Washington en route to Pocomoke City, Md., where he will conduct the Market News work, permitting Mr. Schneck to devote his full time to shipping point inspection. Mr. Stambaugh will return to Washington.

In order to consolidate the Market News work in Atlanta and to relieve the Livestock representative for assignment elsewhere, the Livestock and Meats Market News work and the Live Stock clerk were transferred to the Fruit and Vegetable office on the first of this month. The Market News work on Livestock and Meats at that point has been reduced to the minimum and will be handled in connection with the work on Fruits and Vegetables. The messenger boy has been released to the Division of Crop and Livestock Estimates. At the termination of the Inspection training class in Chicago, Mr. H. F. Willson will be permanently assigned to the Atlanta office, where he will report the market and assist in the general office work. In addition, he will also be available to assist on Inspection work during rush periods.

Specialist June 7.

John W. Coleman was appointed Junior Marketing/Effective June 16 his appointment is being changed to a cooperative one with the States of New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Mr. Coleman received his B. S. degree from West Virginia University in 1923 and since graduation has been engaged in farm work of various kinds/ and as a Shipping Point Inspector in West Virginia and Southern States. Mr. Coleman reported for duty at Philadelphia, where he will take up the former duties of Mr. Willson.

OFFICE NOTES (continued)

Reuben E. Corbin has been appointed Junior Marketing Specialist, effectiv June 21, Mr. Corbin will graduate this month in Agriculture from the State College of New Mexico. Previous to beginning his college work in 1923, Mr. Corbin had taught in the public schools of Kansas, worked in a logging camp in Washington, served as play-ground director in New York State, traveled in South America, served in the Army during the world war period, and after the war was a homesteader in Colorado. He will report for duty at Chicago where he will assist in the Market News work.

H. F. Wilson will leave Philadelphia June 14 for Chicago where he will enter the Food Products Inspection training class starting July 1, taking his leave prior to that date. After completing the training Mr. Wilson will make Atlanta his permanent headquarters.

Leased wire service to Jacksonville, Fla. and to San Antonio, Texas, will be terminated June 30.

C. H. Behnke has gone from Chicago to Milwaukee to relieve H. A. Arenz who is on leave because of some minor injury.

E. W. Stillwell will be in Salt Lake City June 12.

Mr. Froehlich, editor of the Division Letter will return to his desk June 16.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 7, NO. 25
June 18, 1926.
(Contents Confidential)

1a. MR. TENNY NOW ACTING CHIEF OF BUREAU.

Dean Cooper has returned to Kentucky, to resume his duties as dean of the College of Agriculture and director of the Experiment Station, University of Kentucky. Lloyd S. Tenny, formerly Assistant Chief, has now been designated by the Secretary as Acting Chief of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

This change should be kept in mind in all official correspondence and in all references to the head of our Bureau. The facts are repeated in the Division Letter, because of the possibility that some men in the field may not have received the B.A.E. News or The Official Record, announcing the change.

HAVE YOU RECEIVED COPIES OF ALL DIVISION LETTERS?

So many men in the field have moved around recently that copies of all Division Letters may not have reached them. If you failed to receive any issue, please request a copy from the Washington office NOW.

2a. PART I OF PEACH SURVEY READY FOR DISTRIBUTION.

In mimeographed form and as a preliminary report, Part I of the recent cooperative peach survey is now available from the Division of Information in this Bureau. The title on the cover is "The Commercial Fresh Peach Industry in the United States," and the authors who are given particular credit are J. W. Park, of our F. & V. Division, and Carl R. Swinson, of the Division of Farm Management. Many other persons, of course, assisted in making the survey. This preliminary report includes a detailed study of such important subjects as producing areas for peaches, varieties, competition and distribution, marketing, and prices. Many of the data are on the basis of varieties. The report closes with an index to the entire 60 pages of material.

3a. ASPARAGUS PACKING HOUSE DESCRIBED.

At the request of interested persons in South Carolina, Henry D. Greene, of the Sacramento staff, recently prepared an excellent description of a central packing house for California asparagus. Not only is the equipment described in detail, but the methods of packing also are related. The report, which is typewritten, is accompanied by drawings and sketches, showing the floor plan and some of the essential equipment for packing asparagus in a central plant. Only one copy of this report is on file in Washington, but Mr. Greene probably will be glad to give similar information to persons who may need it.

4a. NEW BULLETIN ON MARKETING OF PEANUTS.

Department Bulletin No. 1401, entitled "Marketing Peanuts," just recently came from the press. The joint authors are Harold J. Clay and Paul M. Williams. Among those given credit for aid in compiling statistics, etc., are Mrs. R. G. Tucker, Mrs. E. R. Estes and Miss Mary Hall.

This bulletin gives a very comprehensive survey of the peanut industry, from growing of the product to its final distribution. It is especially well illustrated by 32 attractive half-tone cuts and 9 charts and maps. The import and export situation is discussed, in addition to the domestic marketing of peanuts. The closing portion of this 100-page bulletin includes statistical tables and a complete list of the publications of the Department relating to peanuts and peanut products. Copies can be had from the Division of Information, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Washington. The cost is 25¢ a copy, after the supply for free distribution has been exhausted.

5a. ROADSIDE MARKETS IN MARYLAND.

A very complete and interesting publication has been issued by the Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station, at College Park, on the subject "Roadside Markets in Maryland." The authors are S. H. DeVault and G. E. Bouis. This bulletin is designated as No. 280, and its 20 pages are replete with excellent illustrations of actual markets by the roadside. The text discusses this phase of marketing from many angles.

6a. IN THE MAY SUPPLEMENT TO "CROPS AND MARKETS."

Page 137 - Time of Issuance and Scope of Coming Crop Reports.
138 - May 1 Condition of Apples, Peaches and Early Potatoes in Specified Southern States.
139 - May 1 Condition of Certain Crops in Florida and California.
- Watermelon acreage in Georgia. (filler)
140 - Acreage of roasting ears in Lower Rio Grande Valley. (filler)
- Oregon fruit crops damaged by hot weather. (filler)
143 - Intended Acreage of Tomatoes for Manufacture.
144 - Estimated Commercial Acreage of Intermediate Cabbage, Lettuce, Onions, Tomatoes and Cantaloupes; also Early or Second Early Cucumbers, Cantaloupes, Tomatoes, Potatoes and Watermelons
145 - Estimated Acreage and Production of Early or Second Early Snap Beans, Potatoes, Strawberries and Tomatoes.
- Bermuda and Creole Onions, - Acreage and Forecast of Production
- Mississippi commercial tomato crop. (filler)
151 - Acreage of tomatoes in Norfolk section. (filler)
154 - Carload Shipments of Fruits and Vegetables during April, by States.
155 - Carload Shipments of Citrus Fruits during April, by States.
156 - Recent Agricultural Publications.
157 - Cold Storage Report for May 1 on Apples, Pears and Frozen and Preserved Fruits.
- Early Irish Potatoes in Oklahoma. (filler)
159 - Truck crop situation in Virginia. (filler)

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. ADDITION TO "NI" (PEACHES) PAGE OF THE CODE (EFFECTIVE JUNE 25).

On "NI" (Peaches) page of the code, change

UY Homegrowns to read

UY U. S. No. 2.

This is in accordance with a suggestion received from W. H. Hall.

2b. PROPER METHOD OF QUOTING PEACHES.

In the Division Letter for July 24, 1925, was published the following list of size designations for peaches and the kind of pack relating to each size term. This classification was found to be generally satisfactory, and it is requested that all market reporters use it again this season. Mr. Shoemaker, at Macon, Ga., has written of the importance of this matter to the shippers in that territory. Please quote prices on the following basis:-

Size	6-Basket Crates	Baskets or Hampers
Very large	2 x 1 (5 layers)	2½ inches up
Large	2 x 1 (6 layers)	2¼ - 2½
Medium	2 x 2 (6 layers)	2 - 2¼
Small	2 x 3 (6 layers)	1 3/4- 2
Very Small	3 x 3 & smaller	Below 1 3/4

3b. GEORGIA PEACH SITUATION.

R. H. Shoemaker included the following information in a letter of June 14 from the field station at Macon, Ga.:-

"The peach crops in Jones County are reported to have had no rain thus far. Shipments last week totaled about 300 cars and, with only two weeks left in June and the weather only moderately warm thus far, it appears somewhat as if the heavy July shipments of 1924 will be duplicated. If this occurs, it is somewhat doubtful as to just what the outcome of this deal will be this season.

"The first cars of Early Rose moved Saturday, June 12, and Uneeda shipments from the central district probably will continue until Wednesday or Thursday of this week. Should there be no over-lapping in the movement of the Hileys, Georgia Belles and Elbertas, a successful deal is looked for. If, however, these varieties move at the same time, the difficulties of the shippers will be greatly increased.

"Our mailing list to date amounts to 1,050 names, with more coming each day. I have completed arrangements for the daily talking period to Fort Valley and expect to start reading the information to them today. Surely hope they start shipping some peaches soon, as the scattered movement of the early varieties makes the establishment of a definite market very difficult. Most of the large shippers here have been handling only two or three cars daily."

MEN IN CHARGE OF FIELD STATIONS
should at once examine carefully the list on page 355 of this Division Letter and advise the editor of any necessary corrections.

4b. COLORADO LETTUCE AND MIXED VEGETABLES.

This very interesting letter was written from Denver on June 8 by Wendell Calhoun, in temporary charge of the Denver office:-

"The first car of Colorado head lettuce for 1926 is being loaded at a Denver platform today, the lettuce coming from the gardening district adjacent to Denver. The weather has been rather backward for other crops but ideal for lettuce, and the quality compares very favorably with the mountain-grown product. There is a considerable acreage planted here and at Canon City, and extending back into the foothills. Unless the weather becomes very unfavorable, the crop should come on quite steadily all this month, and the shipments will be much greater than ever before from this district.

"The shipment of strictly mountain-grown lettuce is expected to start from the southern end of the San Luis Valley about the last of June,- from Antonito, La Jara, San Acacio, etc. They had hoped to start by June 20, but the weather has been backward there also, and reports now indicate movement to start between June 25 and 30. The first straight car last year moved July 6. Shipments from that district will be much heavier than last year, especially during July. They have a chance for a nice little deal before the rest of the State gets under way, and they are planning to make the most of it. It may be advisable to start the lettuce report earlier than last year, when the first report was issued July 26.

"The estimated lettuce acreage for the State is around 14,000 acres. The Crop Estimates figure probably will be released by the time you get this, and I understand will be thirteen thousand and some. The estimate of the D. & R. G. Railroad is 14,600 acres. The estimate last year was 10,500, though the general opinion was that acreage finally reached nearer 12,000. The growers have had another year's experience in handling the crop, and some of the unsuccessful ones have been eliminated; so, the yield should be improved. There is a strong sentiment on the part of the shippers to confine themselves to the shipment of only good lettuce, but of course price and market conditions will count more than good resolutions when the time comes. It appears now that a large part of the crop is going to be handled 'cash to the grower,' rather than on consignment, as heretofore.

"Last year there was some criticism of the difference between the estimated production and the total carlot shipments. Of course, we know that, because of the unsatisfactory market, considerable acreage was not harvested. But there was another factor which apparently did not receive due consideration. That was the number of mixed cars, which were shipped, that contained mostly lettuce. I find that there were almost 600 cars of mixed vegetables from the mountain stations, exclusive of the Denver and northern Colorado districts. I know from personal observation that these cars contained mostly lettuce, and that there was somewhere around 400 more cars of lettuce actually shipped than the total carlot shipment figures show. Most stations had small lots of peas and cauliflower coming in daily, which they could not hold long enough to accumulate straight cars. Most shippers also found an advantage in loading mixed cars, in that they could ship to towns which would not handle straight cars, and thus they could get wider distribution. Some platforms made a regular practice of putting peas and cauliflower on the top layer of every car. There is a strong sentiment toward increasing the practice this year.

"These mixed cars are reported from different railroads than the cars of potatoes, onions, cabbage, root vegetables, etc., of the Denver and northern Colorado districts, and I believe it would be advisable to keep separate and report as such the mountain mixed vegetables. In this way, a much more accurate idea could be obtained of the amount of lettuce and peas actually being shipped."

5b. REPORT OF 1925 UNLOADS IN KANSAS CITY.

Before leaving Kansas City, G. A. DeHaven released a very complete report on the carlot arrivals, unloads and diversions for that market during the year 1925. The first of the 15 pages contains, among other features, a picture of a box car of perishables. Unloads are given for 16 leading fruits and vegetables by States of origin. About 9,577 cars of these products were unloaded in Kansas City during 1925, compared with 8,195 cars in 1924. A separate table is given for each product, showing the monthly arrivals, unloads and diversions, on the basis of States of origin. Copies of this report can be obtained from the Kansas City office.

6b. REVIEW OF NORTH CAROLINA STRAWBERRY SEASON.

R. E. Lamb, in charge of the Wilmington, N. C., field station, issued on June 12 an interesting mimeographed review of the 1926 berry season in that State. A chart shows graphically the weekly carlot shipments of strawberries from North Carolina and from all other States during the period April 18 to June 5, 1926 and 1925. Daily movement from N. C. is given for the last four seasons. The principal city markets are reviewed and prices are tabulated for New York City by days and varieties, and for N. C., Florida, Louisiana and Virginia berries separately. Destinations of 1,224 cars are shown. Copies of this review can be had from Mr. Lamb, 102 Custom House, Wilmington.

7b. SUMMARY OF WESTERN NEW YORK LETTUCE DEAL.

The latest summary of a field deal to be issued is that of the Western New York Lettuce Deal, Season of 1925, by A. E. Prugh. An outline map of the State on the cover of this report shows the important lettuce-shipping counties. Among other data, the summary gives the cost of shipping this product from Rochester to 14 city markets.

7½b. WASHINGTON NEEDS SUPPLY OF SUMMARIES ISSUED IN FIELD.

Some of the market stations and a few field men occasionally publish mimeographed summaries of field deals. Upon closing temporary field stations or at the end of the shipping period for certain products, field men frequently issue brief reviews of the season in preliminary form.

The Washington office has many requests for these publications and it is essential that a sufficient supply be on hand here to meet all needs. In the future, 150 copies of each of these summaries or reviews, or other special reports of general interest, should be mailed promptly to Washington, marked for the attention of Miss Pearl Edwards.

8b. TOMATO SITUATION IN MISSISSIPPI.

J. D. Evers sent the following information from Crystal Springs, Miss., in a letter dated June 15:-

"As you may notice, I am quoting the f.o.b. tomato market under the caption of Crystal Springs-Hazlehurst, Miss. This is to suppress any slight feeling of jealousy that exists between the two important shipping points.

"Contrary to other seasons, Hazlehurst to date has shipped much more than Crystal Springs. This is due to the extremely dry weather, which has been prevalent the past three weeks, affecting the higher lands about Crystal Springs more severely than other sections. Some growers report that their fields will produce only 50% of what was first expected. There is no doubt but what the yield will be greatly reduced, as in many cases the top and middle clusters are completely affected with Blossom End Rot. Whereas Crystal Springs was expected to have the same movement as last season, shippers now place the output about 600 to 700 cars under that of 1925. Present indications are that the movement from the entire district will not exceed 3,000 cars and probably be low as 2,500 unless weather conditions become more favorable.

"Total shipments to June 15 were 631 cars, compared with 2,326 last season to the same date. The peak of movement is expected today or tomorrow, whereas in 1925 the period of heaviest shipments occurred the last week of June."

9b. 1925 GEORGIA PEACH DEAL SUMMARIZED.

A very comprehensive summary of the 1925 Peach Deal in Georgia has been distributed during the past week. The author is R. H. Lamb. The front cover carries a chart, showing the average l.c.l. price of peaches in New York City by months during five seasons. Varieties of peaches grown in Georgia are discussed in the text. A chart in this summary illustrates the relative volume of monthly shipments of peaches from Georgia and from all other States during the last three years. Prices are given on the basis of varieties. The report concludes with a detailed statement of the costs of production and a tabulation of returns to growers in Georgia during the three years, 1923 to 1925.

10b. NEW YORK - PENNSYLVANIA GRAPE DEAL, 1925.

A. E. Prugh and Mark F. O'Donnell are joint authors of the Summary of the New York and Pennsylvania Grape Deal, 1925, which was issued a few days ago. Mr. O'Donnell is a member of the New York State staff. A bunch of grapes adorns the front cover of this summary. A detailed statement is given of the value of the grape crop in the Chautauqua-Erie district for 1924 and 1925. The utilization of grapes in that district also is shown. A couple of pages are devoted to a discussion of grape inspections.

10½b. WENATCHEE APPLE ASSOCIATION TO OPEN OFFICE IN NEW YORK.

A district sales office is to be opened in New York City about July 1 by the Wenatchee District Cooperative Association, Wenatchee, Wash. In addition to sales in New York City and vicinity, this office will have supervision over sales work in New England, eastern Canada, and several important markets adjacent to New York. This new enterprise is a part of the program to shorten the route of sale between the grower and consumer.

11b. ONIONS, PEACHES AND WATERMELONS IN NORTHEASTERN TEXAS.

Writing from Fort Worth on June 10, W. D. Googe gave the following information regarding conditions in the northeastern part of Texas:-

"On Saturday, June 5, I made a hurried trip through the counties to the northeast, principally to attend a meeting of onion growers and shippers at Paris. The secretary of the Paris Chamber of Commerce phoned me that the meeting was to be held at 2 o'clock Saturday afternoon, and that they would like to have me explain what was contemplated in the way of market news reports for this section. I advised him that Messrs. Gregory and Lindstrom were at Hugo, Okla. - 25 miles away - and they also were asked to be present in the interest of the inspection service.

"About 75 were present at the meeting, at which it was decided to organize the growers and shippers, in order to market their crop most advantageously. Officers were elected and committees were appointed. Many smaller towns and shipping centers already have onion growers' associations, and they had representatives at the Paris meeting from Lamar, Red River, Fannin and Hunt counties. Reports at the meeting indicated that the four counties would ship about 300 cars of the Bermuda-type onions. These will be in addition to the Collin County movement, about which Mr. Stillwell wrote you. The Paris section proper expects about 75 cars, and various stations in Hunt County will ship about 125 cars, while the remainder will be shipped from miscellaneous points in Red River and Fannin counties.

"I stopped also at Sulphur Springs, to make inquiry regarding the movement of peaches and watermelons. The melon crop is late, no movement of consequence being expected before July 10 or 15. Some sections are spotted, but in general the vines are in good condition. The carlot movement will exceed last year's by 15% to 25%, according to reports.

The Elberta peach movement is expected to be on during the early days of July, but there already is a considerable movement by truck of Early Wheelers and Mamie Ross to the nearby cities. The Elberta crop will be fully as large as last year's, provided the fruit keeps on growing. The late freeze caused many small peaches to drop off, but those remaining on the trees are developing into large fruit. Some of the growers report that there are indications that Brown Rot will be prevalent.

"In addition to the above, Sulphur Springs, Pittsburg, Winnsboro and other places are shipping large quantities of other stuff - potatoes, beans, peas, cabbage, tomatoes, berries, etc., mostly in mixed cars. The movement of potatoes in carloads from Paris was estimated about 40 cars."

12b. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR JUNE 12:

Page 373 - Prices Still Declining. (weekly review)
374 - California Cantaloupe Prices Lower, - by C. E. Schultz.
- Alabama Potato Movement Light, - by H. E. Rutland.
375 - South Carolina Potatoes Late, - by J. W. Park.
- Big Business by Ozark Fruit Growers.
- United Kingdom Fruit Imports Increase.
- The Walnut Situation in France.
376 - Northern Hemisphere Fruit Prospects.

13b. EARLY POTATOES STARTING IN COLORADO.

Mr. Calhoun, of the Denver office, sent the following information in a letter of June 11:

"Colorado early potatoes are coming along nicely, and from recent reports of Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Kaw Valley deals, the prospects are good for early Colorado stock. The Fruita deal will start the last of June, but it is likely that digging will not begin in earnest until after the 4th of July celebration.

"The deal is opening a week or ten days earlier than last year, when the first car went out June 29. I am planning to start potato reports about July 1.

"The acreage in the Fruita district is about 2,300, all Cobblers. The season has been quite favorable so far, and the estimates of the movement are between 500 and 550 cars. The peak movement will probably be about July 10 or 15. Shipments are handled mostly by the Colorado Potato Growers' Exchange and the Fruita Mercantile Company, being about evenly divided between them. Weyl-Zuckerman Company also buys a few, and there may be a few other stray buyers."

14b. MARKET NEWS WORK ON EASTERN SHORE.

H. W. Schneck, who has been operating the market news office at Pocomoke City, Md., in connection with his inspection service in that territory, found a number of problems peculiar to the Eastern Shore. Inspections kept him busy until at least 7 P.M. daily, and most of the f.o.b. information on strawberries had to be obtained by telephone after 8 P.M. During the peak of berry movement, auctioneers and buyers usually were busy at the loading stations until 8:30 P.M., and some evenings until after 9 o'clock, which made it impossible for Mr. Schneck to get in touch with some of them until 10 o'clock and in a few cases the f.o.b. report could not be obtained before morning. The four important berry shipping sections on the Eastern Shore are widely separated, and this added to the difficulty, so far as personal visits were concerned. Onley, Va., is about 30 miles south of Pocomoke City. Cheriton, Va. is about 70 miles south. Marion, Md., lies 25 miles west of Pocomoke City, while Berlin, Md., and Selbyville, Del., are 40 miles east, and Bridgeville, Del., is 50 miles to the north.

Mr. Schneck expects that the market news work on potatoes will be much simpler, as the potato area is more concentrated and there are fewer persons to consult. Three large operators handle most of the potatoes, and there is mainly only one variety of this product and only two grades are packed. In the case of strawberries there were eight or ten varieties, and as many as three to five varieties in each of the different sections.

B. C. BOREE,
Marketing Specialist.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

Stations	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably will close
WILMINGTON, N. C.** 102 Custom House	805	R. H. Lamb	Berries*	May 1	May 29*
			Lettuce*	May 6	June 3*
			Potatoes	June 4	June 30
			Stg.Beans	June 1	June 30
			Cucumbers	June 21	July 3
EL CENTRO, CALIF. Barbara Worth Hotel	808	C. E. Schultz A. E. Prugh	Cants.	May 11	July 1
POCOMOKE CITY, MD.** Pennisula Bldg.	878	H. E. Rutland	Berries*	May 21	June 17*
			Potatoes	June 14	July 31
LEESBURG, FLA.** Wiley-Coulson Bldg., MAIL: P.O. Box 591.	832	R. L. Sutton	W-melons	May 28	June 26
			Tomatoes	May 28	June 26
MACON, GA.** 620 Bibb Bldg.	833	R. H. Shoemaker	Peaches	June 7	July 24
CRYSTAL SPRINGS, MISS. Howell Bldg.	809	J. D. Evers	Tomatoes	June 5	July 3
JACKSONVILLE, TEXAS ** First Nat'l Bank Bldg.	811	W. F. Cox	Tomatoes	June 4	July 3
ELIZABETH CITY, N. C. Chamber of Commerce	810	W. G. Lensen	Potatoes	June 7	June 30

The following stations probably will open about dates indicated:

VALDOSTA, GA.**	832	R. L. Sutton	W-melons	June 29	July 24
PHOENIX, ARIZ.	815	A. E. Prugh	Cants.	July 1	July 24

The following stations closed on dates indicated:

MONETT, MO. First Nat'l Bank Bldg.	857	W. H. Mosier	Berries	May 25	June 15
CHARLESTON, S. C. Chamber of Commerce	858	J. W. Park	Potatoes	May 24	June 17

** State cooperating. * Reports discontinued.
W. H. Mosier at Farmersville, Texas. J. W. Park returned to Washington.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. KAW VALLEY POTATO OUTLOOK.

A. S. Mason, who will supervise potato inspections in the Kaw Valley of Kansas this season, wrote as follows in a letter of June 12 from Wichita:-

"Conditions in the Valley now look a little more favorable. They had a good rain, which they needed very much. There will be a few scattered shipments between June 25 and July 5, mostly from around Lawrence, where the shippers are not favorable for inspection. Heavy shipments will start about July 5, and the shippers state that the peak will be around July 15 or 20. After the peak, all expect a rapid decrease, with the deal probably finished by August 1."

2c. POTATO AND CANTALOUPE INSPECTIONS IN ARKANSAS.

In a letter of June 7 from Van Buren, Ark., information is given by G. W. Winfrey to the effect that possibly 100 to 175 cars of potatoes will be inspected in that territory. "All Triumph and Cobbler potatoes here are graded on 1 3/4 inch basis, and I expect to make a grade statement that the stock is of U. S. No. 1 quality, except that it is 1 3/4 inch minimum diameter," stated Mr. Winfrey.

Regarding cantaloupes, he added: "There is a possibility that a good part of the cantaloupe crop here will be shed-packed and, if so, I may try the hydrometer test at those points."

The next item is from California Inspectors' Notes, May 21:-

3c. RECORD PACK OF CANNED PEACHES EXPECTED.

If the California canning peach crop is able to mature under the present favorable conditions, approximately 12,000,000 cases should be packed. "This will be the largest peach pack in the history of the California canning industry," said W. H. Tuggle, Canned Fruit Standardization Inspector of the California Department of Agriculture. The California cling-peach crop is estimated by the Canning Peach Association at 270,000 tons. At a meeting at the St. Francis Hotel in San Francisco on Monday, the association established the prices of this year's canning peach crop, and these prices are being accepted by the packers: $40.00 per ton was established for the No. 1 fruit, which represents an advance of $5.00 over last season's opening price; $20.00 per ton will be the price for No. 2's, an advance of $2.50 over last year's price for this grade. With nearly a 10% increase in acreage of bearing clings and the crop reported in excellent condition, everything points toward a record yield.

"Some of the canneries in the State started packing cherries last week," said Mr. Tuggle. "All of the plants which are to handle cherries will be packing in full swing on this fruit by the middle of this week." Cherries are the first fruit to be packed under the provisions of the new California Canned Fruit Standardization Law, the administration of which is being supervised by Mr. Tuggle.

"The packers are now using the new lids for their cans, embossed with the word "Seconds' in letters at least one-fourth inch in height, in order to comply with the new law. The packers also are carefully grading their standards in order to comply with the specifications for this grade. The cherries are running very good this year and everything indicates a good pack."

The next four items are from California Inspectors' Notes, June 4:-

4c. CALIFORNIA APPLE INSPECTIONS COMMENCE.

The first car of new apples inspected this season was certified in Marysville June 2. Elwood Collins and Henry Greene have been handling the deal there until the regular apple crew arrives. About four cars have been certified and stamped with the State stamp to date. The apples, which are of the White Astrachan variety, are generally very green and are being shipped loose in pear boxes as unclassified apples. With the exception of hail damage in some lots, the fruit is reasonably free from blemishes. The sorters are wiping the fruit with cotton gloves.

5c. APPLE - PEAR MEETING HELD.

Sprays were discussed at a meeting of pear and apple growers and shippers of the Sacramento River section, which was held June 3 at Hood, under the auspices of County Commissioner Morrison. About 60 were present, a very good representation for the district. The meeting was addressed by Mr. Morrison, S. S. Rogers, and Dr. Ray of the State Board of Health. Those present unanimously voted to give the authorities their hearty support in preventing the shipment of objectionable fruit.

6c. HEARINGS ON GRAPE LUG AND GRADES.

Official hearings to discuss the adoption of an additional standard container for grapes were recently held as follows:

A meeting at Lodi, May 26, was attended by over 200 growers, followed by a meeting at Fresno on the 27th, attended by about 100 growers. Fifteen growers were in attendance at the Bakersfield meeting May 28, and about 40 were present at Exeter the following day. The general feeling at all of these meetings favored the adoption of a $5\frac{1}{4}$ inch lug as an additional standard container for packed grapes. No standard container is prescribed for loose-packed juice grapes.

The revised U. S. grades for table sawdust-packed grapes were discussed at some length at each of these meetings. The proposed raising of the sugar requirements for the Malaga, Muscat and Thompson from 17 to 20 for U. S. Fancy grade was favored by those present. It was felt, however, that all other varieties should be required to test only 17% for U. S. Fancy.

7c. COACHELLA ONIONS AND GRAPES.

The Coachella onion inspection deal has turned out somewhat better than was expected early in the season, writes Tom Harmon. About 810 cars were inspected by May 30, out of the 1,012 that had been shipped, making an average of $2\frac{1}{4}$ cars per man day. About 135 cars failed to grade U. S. No. 1. Some hot weather occurred last week, which caused considerable sun-scald and made it necessary to turn down a few carloads of onions. Some 150 additional cars should be inspected before the close of the deal about June 10.

Grape shipments from the Coachella Valley should begin around the 15th or 20th of June, Harmon writes.

The next two items are from California Inspectors' Notes, June 11:-

8c. IMPERIAL VALLEY CONDITIONS NO BETTER.

The mildew situation in the Imperial Valley does not show much improvement, according to letters from Sam Preston. The aeroplane began dusting operations the last of May, but no definite reports have been received as to the actual effectiveness of this treatment. Although the plane was hired at the rate of $200 per flying hour, under favorable conditions, it was able to dust about 200 acres per hour, thus giving a very low rate per acre. Twenty-five pounds of dust were used per acre, the plane carrying 600 pounds when loaded to capacity. The dust consisted of a mixture of a proprietary preparation called Sulpho-germ, cut down to 25% to 40% with lime.

Sulpho-germ is now commanding the high price of $100 per ton on account of the heavy demand of the cantaloupe growers. The dust is thrown in a spiral spray behind the plane with much force and spreads out a considerable width, settling down among the vines. As the plane does not fly much higher than 10 feet above the vines, some rather nice aviation is required.

Cantaloupe inspections in the Imperial Valley were very light last week, 81 cars being the total. This week 4 or 5 cars a day seems to be the average, writes Preston. Some cars of Honey Dews and occasional cars of tomatoes are being certified. Though some patches of Honey Dews are suffering from the mildew, the quality and sugar content of the first pickings has been very good.

The wire auction companies, which expected to operate heavily during the cantaloupe deal, have practically ceased their usual f.o.b. selling, because it has been impossible to certify a large per œntage of the shipments.

9c. COACHELLA ONIONS SLOWING DOWN.

Coachella onion shipments are fast drawing to a close, though a few cars are still to be moved and inspected. Inspections for the week ending June 5 amounted to 169 cars, bringing the total inspections for the season up to 978. The previous week's inspections totaled 252 cars and the decline during the last week was quite noticeable. It is said that a shortage of crates is delaying the harvesting of the late onions.

10c. NORTH CAROLINA POTATO NEWS.

In a wire of June 14, A. E. Mercker, Supervising Inspector at Raleigh, N. C., gave the following report on early potatoes in that State:-

"Growers decided to dig heavily, being apprehensive of June rains, which have not set in yet but are expected daily. Quality improving daily. Weather extremely hot and may curtail digging, as most growers have fields clean of potatoes between 10 in the morning and 4 in the afternoon. At least 90% potatoes in State are being Government inspected, there being 62 potato inspectors in the field. Movement from Elizabeth City and Currituck County heavy this week. Movement from Mt. Olive and Bethel increasing but their peaks probably be about June 23. Practically nine-tenths of shippers selling basis of Government inspection certificate reports."

SUPERVISORS OF FIELD DEALS
should at once examine carefully the list on page 361 of this Division Letter and advise the editor of any necessary additions or changes.

11c. LETTUCE AND EARLY POTATOES IN IDAHO.

In a letter of June 8, L. G. Schultz, of the Boise office, advised that lettuce in that section was showing considerable tip-burn and no more cars would grade No. 1 on account of that defect. There has been no trouble this season about the solidity of heads. In the Lewiston section, however, the growers had their usual trouble in getting the lettuce to form firm heads.

New potatoes will start to move from the King Hill section the latter part of June. Shipments from Malheur County, Oregon, are expected to begin shortly after July 1.

12c. REVISED GRADES FOR LETTUCE.

With this D.L., each inspector will receive a copy of the revised U. S. Grades for Lettuce.

13c. SEND COPIES OF CONDITION INSPECTION ON PEACHES TO MR. STRAUSS.

Mr. Strauss advises that small amounts of Brown Rot have been noted at several points in Georgia. In order to check up the development of this decay during transit, he requests that copies of all condition inspections of peaches be mailed to him at Hotel Macon, Macon, Georgia. Please see that this is done promptly, so that he may have this information for use in connection with the shipping-point work.

14c. PRESIDENT COOLIDGE'S FOOD BEING INSPECTED.

About two weeks ago, the Washington office began making inspections for the Navy, this work being handled by Herbert Graff in connection with his other local inspections. Food used on the President's yacht, the Mayflower, is inspected regularly, as are supplies for the Naval Hospital, the receiving stations, and other naval establishments in and around Washington.

15c. SPECIAL RAILROAD SERVICE IN CLEVELAND.

A contract has been arranged with the Nickel Plate Road in Cleveland, whereby all cars of perishables arriving over their tracks will be given a preliminary inspection and any cars showing considerable breakage or other bad conditions will be given a thorough inspection. Last year about 3,800 cars of fruits and vegetables reached Cleveland via the Nickel Plate, and it is estimated locally that the number of cars during 1926 may be between 4,000 and 4,500. G. R. Warren will devote his entire time to this special railroad work, and he will be assisted by S. N. Green, when necessary.

15½c. AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITS AT SESQUI-CENTENNIAL.

The Palace of Agriculture, at the Sesqui-Centennial, Philadelphia, was one of the first buildings completed and is the biggest structure on the grounds. The building covers about 8½ acres, being 460 feet wide and 970 feet long. It will contain the food, civic and foreign exhibits. The various projects of our F. & V. Division will be represented by exhibits, illustrating the principal lines of work conducted.

16c. BRIEF NOTES ON INSPECTION DEALS:

MAINE - Potato inspections in Maine were completed on June 5, and the total number of cars inspected this season was 2,071.

DELAWARE - Shipping point work in Delaware probably will start about July 1. This season the products to be inspected will include apples, grapes and peaches.

MARYLAND - Eastern Shore of Maryland inspection service will include tomatoes, beginning the first week of July. Tomatoes may be inspected at Pocomoke City, Princess Anne and King's Creek.

SOUTH CAROLINA - Up to June 11 about 27 cars of beans, 25 cars of potatoes and 2 cars of dewberries had been inspected in east-central South Carolina, according to a report from G. E. Prince.

GEORGIA - The real heavy movement of Georgia peaches is expected to start about June 23, according to O. G. Strauss, at Macon.

FLORIDA - Before leaving Palmetto, Mr. Townsend advised that about 340 cars of tomatoes had been inspected in Manatee County, Florida.

MISSISSIPPI - Inspections around Crystal Springs may be completed by July 1, according to F. S. Kinsey. Dry weather is reducing the crops.

IOWA - The Iowa onion inspection deal may open early in July. A good crop is expected in the Pleasant Valley district.

TEXAS - About 8,000 inspections had been made in the Lower Rio Grande Valley to June 15, according to advices from C. D. Shirley, who has been supervising that deal since the first of the year. A few hundred additional cars may yet be inspected.

OKLAHOMA - Heaviest shipments of potatoes were expected from the Arkansas River Valley, Oklahoma, during the two weeks, June 13 to 26, and for that reason M. C. Gregory has moved his headquarters to Muskogee.

17c. SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION OF UTAH ONIONS.

Of the 563 cars of onions shipped from Utah in 1925, 407 cars, or over 70% of the total, were inspected at shipping point by the Federal-State shipping-point inspection service. Owing to the careful grading practiced by the growers and insisted on by shippers, only a comparatively small number of the cars inspected failed to make the No. 1 grade. In their contract with growers, shippers specified that deliveries must meet the requirements of the No. 1 grade. Loads were inspected on delivery at the car door, and such as failed to make the grade were rejected by the shipper. Several straight cars of doubles and split onions were shipped under a No. 2 grade. The inspection service has been largely responsible for making onions one of the best-graded crops shipped out of the State.

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

TEMPORARY HEADQUARTERS OF EASTERN AND SOUTHERN SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION DEALS:

State	Federal Supervisor	Products	Approx. date of Opening	Approx. date of Closing
TEXAS:	H. T. Longino, Jacksonville, Texas	Tomatoes	June 1	July 3
	W. H. Mosier Farmersville, Texas	Onions	June 3	June 25
ARKANSAS:	G. W. Winfrey, Van Buren, Ark.	S-berries*	May 3	May 29*
		Cabbage*	June 4	June 15*
		Beans*	June 5	June 18*
		Blackberries*	June 4	June 18*
		Onions	June 10	July 3
		Potatoes	June 12	June 30
		Tomatoes	June 12	July 3
MISSISSIPPI:	F. S. Kinsey, Crystal Springs, Miss.	Vegetables	May 3	June 26
VIRGINIA:	K. W. Schaible, P. O. Box 126, Cape Charles, Va.	Berries*	May 17	June 5*
		Cabbage	May 24	June 19
		Potatoes	June 10	July 24
MARYLAND:	H. W. Schneck, Pocomoke City, Md.	Berries	May 21	June 19
		Potatoes	June 15	July 31
GEORGIA:	O. G. Strauss, Hotel Macon, Macon, Ga.	Peaches	June 1	July 31
	J. C. Townsend, Jr., Marshallville, Ga.	Peaches	June 11	July 15
	J. A. Marks, P. O. Box 66, Fort Valley, Ga.	Peaches	June 11	July 24
OKLAHOMA:	M. C. Gregory,** Muskogee, Okla.	Potatoes	June 1	July 3
KANSAS:	A. S. Mason, Topeka, Kans.	Potatoes	June 28	July 31

The following station closed on or about date indicated:

TEXAS:	C. D. Shirley, Harlingen, Texas	Vegetables	Jan. 1	June 15

NOTE: Supervisors should promptly send corrections of data in above columns.

* Service completed on products marked with star.

C. D. Shirley temporarily in San Antonio, Texas.

R. C. Lindstrom returned to Chicago office.

**M. C. Gregory's address in Muskogee is c/o Baltimore Hotel.

RECEIVING-POINT INSPECTIONS DURING MAY, 1926

Markets	Total Inspections	Total Same Month 1925	Inspections for Carriers	Declined for Lack of Time	Total Fees
Atlanta	53	49	0	1	$ 214.00
Baltimore	34	24	6	0	134.00
Boston	365	284	277	10	1507.50
Buffalo	130	123	94	0	474.50
Chicago	206	260	0	0	980.00
Cincinnati	42	44	0	0	218.00
Cleveland	223	153	189	0	940.00
Columbus	43	23	0	0	172.00
Denver	8	9	0	0	34.00
Detroit	363	241	255	0	1467.50
Harrisburg	2	0	0	0	8.00
Indianapolis	26	12	6	0	111.00
Jacksonville	10	-	0	0	34.00
Kansas City	41	64	7	0	173.50
Los Angeles	6	0	1	0	24.00
Memphis	41	26	36	0	163.50
Milwaukee	130	52	101	0	507.50
Minneapolis	41	56	0	0	168.50
Newark	23	0	4	0	92.50
New Haven	54	41	6	0	228.00
New Orleans	43	52	16	0	166.00
New York	709	580	502	0	2846.25
Norfolk	26	13	1	0	97.50
Omaha	37	10	13	0	157.50
Philadelphia	172	112	106	0	683.50
Pittsburgh	304	213	221	12	1244.00
Portland	28	13	2	0	109.50
St. Louis	152	88	96	0	606.00
Salt Lake City	2	5	0	0	8.60
San Francisco	6	0	0	0	17.00
Washington	26	20	1	0	110.00
Wichita	16	-	9	0	61.00
Wilkes-Barre	34	15	26	1	139.50
TOTALS	3396	2583	1975	24	$13,897.75

This total of 3,396 inspections in May is the highest record ever made during that month, exceeding by 63 the previous record established in May, 1922.

INSPECTIONS FOR THE NAVY AND MARINE CORPS DURING MAY, 1926.

SYMBOLS: N – NAVY M – MARINE CORPS	ALL FIGURES IN THESE COLUMNS REPRESENT POUNDS									
	Fruits and Vegetables PASSED		Fruits and Vegetables REJECTED		TOTAL QUANTITY INSPECTED		"Cuts" Made to Comply with Specifications		Items Billed Short-weight	
STATIONS	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M
BOSTON	254912	1510	1578	0	256490	1510	201	0	0	0
NEW YORK	336115	80854	17646	797	353761	81651	368	0	0	0
NORFOLK	No supply ships loaded at Norfolk during May									
PHILADELPHIA	403289	28283	5949	9	409238	28292	2061	296	0	0
SAN DIEGO	667141	60351	15406	1325	682547	61676	5392	390	0	0
SAN FRANCISCO	187640	0	21200	0	208840	0	120	0	0	0
SAN PEDRO	597271	0	6975	0	604246	0	219	0	0	0
VALLEJO	277405	25829	7102	392	284507	26221	46	10	0	0
TOTALS	2723773	196827	75856	2523	2799629	199350	8407	696	0	0
INSPECTIONS MADE FOR U.S. SHIPPING BOARD										
NEW YORK	16608		915		17523		0		0	
NORFOLK	37182		2050		39232		0		0	
TOTALS	53790		2965		56755		0		0	

In addition to the above the New York office inspected the following:

	Vegetables	Fruits	Rejections
United States Lines	259,520	120,253	5,205
United American Lines	--	34,858	149
Munson Line	49,771	15,826	1,705
American Diamond Lines	6,560	1,743	375
American Merchant Line	9,466	4,866	694
American France Line	8,240	2,176	280
American West and South African Line	4,395	1,366	--

The Vallejo office also inspected the following for the Navy:

	Passed	Rejected
Bread	27,385 lbs.	245 lbs.
Rolls	105	0

The San Pedro office also inspected and passed the following:
Bread – 6,783 lbs.; Butter – 3,279 lbs.; Cheese – 1,292 lbs.

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Sherman went to Cleveland on Tuesday night, where he is making a personal study of the new inspection work instituted for the Nickel Plate Road. He may stop at Johnstown, Pa., on the return trip, to attend a court case in which a certificate issued on Michigan grapes will be used as evidence. Mr. Sherman probably will be back at his desk by Tuesday, June 22.

Mr. Butner, of the Chicago office, also was in Cleveland on Thursday and Friday of this week, to assist in starting the new railroad inspection service in that market. Mr. Butner will have general supervision of this work.

G. R. Warren, who was assisting with peach inspections around Macon, Ga., has been assigned to the Cleveland staff and will give his full time to inspections for the Nickel Plate Road. When necessary, S. N. Green, of the Cleveland office, also will help with this work.

Mr. Stillwell is taking a couple of days' leave in Denver this week, and then will proceed to the Chicago office of the Market News Service. He expects to reach Chicago by Monday, spend Tuesday and Wednesday in Cincinnati, and be back in Washington on Thursday. Mr. Stillwell has been in travel status in the interest of market reporting work since April 18.

Mr. Robb returned to his desk on Monday, June 7, after more than seven weeks in the field. This trip, which was mainly in the interest of shipping-point inspection work in central and western States, took him as far as the Pacific Coast.

Mr. Samson left Chicago last night for Pittsburgh. After a few days there, conferring with F. & V. representatives and members of the trade regarding standardization matters, he expects to visit other eastern markets and may be back in Washington by the end of next week.

Robert Bier went to Georgia on June 12, to confer with supervisors regarding the inspection of peaches. On Thursday and Friday of this week, he was at Raleigh, N.C., for conference with Federal and State officials on inspection matters, and this Saturday he plans to stop at Norfolk, Va., for a similar purpose. He will be back at his desk by Monday, June 21.

Edwin Smith, who has been conferring with northwestern fruit growers and shippers, expects to reach Chicago by June 22. After meeting with men in that market, he will take a week's leave and then go to Rochester, N.Y., for conference with R. G. Phillips, Secretary of the International Apple Shippers' Association, and other interested persons. He may return to Washington before July 1. Mr. Smith has been on this western trip since May 12.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

H. A. Spilman was at Wilmington, N. C., last Saturday for conference with officials of the Wilmington Truck Growers' Association regarding the standardization of containers. Fortunately George R. Ross, Chief of the N.C. Division of Markets, and A. E. Mercker, Supervising Inspector, happened to be in Wilmington that day and also attended this conference.

R. W. Davis visited package factories in southwestern Arkansas the latter part of this week. By Saturday, June 19, he expects to reach Marshall, Texas, and he can be reached at the Liberty Hotel, Jacksonville, Texas, the early part of next week.

To fill the vacancy by recent resignation of Mrs. Ruth A. Jones, an appointment has been given Miss Anna C. Hurley, as a stencil-cutter in Mr. Clay's section. Miss Helen E. Crawley has been transferred from the Office of Publications to our F. & V. Division and is assisting with stencil cutting and general typing. Mrs. T. E. Trusch also is typing a statistical bulletin.

W. H. Mosier will reach Farmersville, Texas, this Saturday and take over the supervision of onion inspections in Collin County. Mr. Mosier had been operating the market news service on strawberries at Monett, Mo.

R. C. Lindstrom, who was conducting the onion inspection work at Farmersville, Texas, will return to his headquarters in Chicago early next week.

Word just received from C. E. Schultz, at El Centro, indicates that the Imperial Valley cantaloupe deal will be shorter than usual and he plans to close the field station there by July 1 instead of July 10.

G. A. DeHaven, who has been in charge of the market reporting work in Kansas City since last July, is now transferred to Mr. Samson's project and his future headquarters will be Washington. Mr. DeHaven arrived here by automobile on Wednesday and has gone to Lancaster, Pa., for a short period of leave before taking up his new duties in standardization and research. He was first appointed to the F. & V. Division in June, 1923, and has had experience in both inspection and market news work.

G. D. Clark, who was the market reporter in St. Louis until recently, is now in temporary charge of that work in Kansas City, until a permanent successor can be secured for Mr. DeHaven's place.

It should be remembered that T. R. Hall is in charge of the St. Louis office of the Market News Service, having succeeded Mr. Clark there.

S. F. Shreve, Baltimore inspector, is on leave this week, and Herbert Graff, of the Washington office, is handling Baltimore inspections.

H. E. Rutland stopped at the Washington office on Monday, en route from Mobile, Ala., to Pocomoke City, Md., where he is now in charge of the market news work on potatoes.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

Upon closing the Charleston, S. C., field station at the end of this week, J. W. Park will return to his headquarters in Washington.

J. E. Dickerson has returned to Cincinnati from his leave in Idaho, but will soon depart for southern Indiana, where he will supervise shipping-point inspections of watermelons, tomatoes, sweet potatoes and peaches. He probably will accompany a special grading and marketing train on the C. & E.I. Railroad, which will leave Terre Haute on June 23, stopping at various points in this producing territory. W. E. Leigh will remain in temporary charge of the inspection work in Cincinnati.

C. D. Shirley has completed his supervision of the Lower Rio Grande Valley inspection work and has gone to San Antonio, where he is on a short period of leave. Local inspectors will handle the remaining work in the Valley. This Thursday, Mr. Shirley went to Austin to confer with State officials regarding the possibility of watermelon inspections in Atascosa and Frio counties, Texas, as he recently visited shipping points in that region to look into the situation. He can be reached c/o Chamber of Commerce, San Antonio.

Paul A. Cauble, who has been a cooperative inspector at Denver, will leave the Federal service by July 1.

N. D. Sanborn, who has spent the past two weeks in New York City, assisting with inspections, is now proceeding to Denver, where he will be stationed until the Rocky Ford cantaloupe deal opens. Mr. Sanborn supervises the shipping-point work in the Rocky Ford section each season. He stopped at the Washington office today, en route west.

The WICHITA OFFICE of the Inspection Service will be closed temporarily, effective next week, and A. S. Mason, the local inspector, will go to Topeka, Kans., where he will supervise potato inspections at points in the Kaw Valley, starting about June 28.

H. A. Harris, of the Los Angeles office, attended a meeting of the Hollywood (Calif.) Rotary Club recently and gave a talk on "The Work of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics in Los Angeles."

After completing the strawberry inspections in eastern Tennessee, J. A. Marks proceeded to Fort Valley, Ga., where he is supervising the local work on peaches. His mail address is P. O. Box 66, Fort Valley.

J. C. Townsend, Jr., closed the tomato inspection work at Palmetto, Fla., on May 31 and is now located at Marshallville, Ga., on the peach deal.

O. G. Strauss, of the Macon office, is issuing a weekly News Letter for the information and instruction of the entire force of inspectors, handling peaches at various points in Georgia. The first copy for this season was dated June 9.

OFFICE NOTES: (Continued)

As the South Carolina potato crop is largely moved, George E. Prince, who supervised inspections at Charleston and vicinity, has returned to his permanent headquarters at Aiken, S. C.

R. M. Peterson, of the Minneapolis office, is taking his annual leave, beginning June 14. R. M. Ferguson is handling both the market news and inspection work at Minneapolis during Mr. Peterson's absence.

C. h. Beasley, cooperative inspector at Watsonville, Calif., was on a long period of leave at his home in Tennessee, but has now returned to duty.

J. B. Wright, Navy inspector, should NOT be addressed at San Pedro, Calif., between July 2 and September 1. He will take his own leave during the first part of July and then will substitute for inspectors Fountain, Hansen and Duncan, all of whom are stationed on the California coast. From July 2 to 17, mail or other communications for Mr. Wright can be sent to his home address: 4507 Second Avenue, Los Angeles.

W. L. Close resigns as District Horticultural Supervisor, at Yakima, Wash., and will become Federal Supervising Inspector in the State of Oregon, beginning with the movement of the prune and pear crops about August 1.

J. D. Evers is author of an article entitled: "Rio Grande Valley Tomatoes Important," which appeared on page 348 of Crops and Markets for May 29. This article was unintentionally omitted from the index to Crops and Markets, published as Par. 3a in the Division Letter dated June 4.

M. C. Gregory, who was supervising potato inspections around Hugo, Okla., moved early this week to Muskogee, Okla., where his local address is the Baltimore Hotel.

The Portland U.S.D.A. Club Camp Site on Zig Zag Creek, Mt. Hood National Forest, is featured in an attractive illustrated booklet, recently issued by the Club officials. This organization of Department workers is only three years old. R. L. Ringer, of our Portland office, is Chairman of the Camp Committee of the Club, and has been an important promoter of this splendid recreational project, about 50 miles up the Columbia River from Portland. The camp is equipped with a two-story club house and other facilities for enjoyment of a real outing.

Wendell Calhoun, of the Denver market news office, expects to go to Colorado Springs this Saturday, for a meeting of Colorado shippers, called by Dr. B. O. Aylesworth, State Marketing Director, to discuss grades and other matters relating to fruits and vegetables.

Mrs. Amy P. Lewis, stenographer in Mr. Butner's office, Chicago, resigned, effective June 14. She was appointed only a few months ago.

IF THIS DIVISION LETTER IS TOO LONG,
please write the editor, telling him which items should have been omitted or condensed. He would like to receive 150 letters from as many persons. DO IT NOW, while you are in the mood.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 7, NO. 26
June 25, 1926.
(Contents Confidential)

1a. NEW FORM OF TRANSPORTATION REQUESTS.

Attention is specially called to Item 5 of The B.A.E. News of June 8 concerning the new form of transportation requests. Those needed by employees in the Fruit and Vegetable Division, together with transportation identification cards, are being mailed this week, accompanied by a memorandum dated June 9, containing detailed instructions for their use. This should be read very carefully, in view of the changes from the present procedure. The change is effective July 1, when all transportation requests now on hand become obsolete and should be forwarded promptly to Washington.

2a. SUBMIT VOUCHERS PROMPTLY.

Vouchers should be submitted promptly for all unpaid obligations to and including June 30. This includes reimbursement vouchers as well as Form-5 vouchers.

3a. NEW LETTERS OF AUTHORIZATION.

New letters of authorization are being provided for stations and for persons traveling in the field, to authorize the travel necessary immediately after July 1. The present rates of subsistence will continue until otherwise advised.

4a. ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPLEMENT.

Every field man is expected to possess a copy of the Administrative Supplement, which was issued last November. This Supplement to the Handbooks is particularly valuable to new employees entering the service. Anyone who has not received a copy should request one at once.

5a. NEW EXAMINATION FOR ASSISTANT MARKETING SPECIALIST.

Another examination for "Assistant Marketing Specialist (Fruits and Vegetables), $2,400" will be held in the near future. Applications must be on file in the Washington office of the Civil Service Commission not later than July 10. Copies of the printed announcement, which is designated as No. 230, are being sent with this D.L. to all branch offices and field stations. Men in charge should see that the announcements are given at once to persons who may be interested in and qualified for work of this kind.

6a. WALLA WALLA ONION SITUATION.

A wire of June 21 from R. L. Ringer, of the Portland office, gives the following information regarding onions in the Walla Walla district of Washington "Walla Walla onions 10 days early. First shipments probably move about June 25. Crop in fine condition. Acreage slightly larger than ever before planted, and crop generally estimated to be about 1,000 cars. Apparently no future sales made so far."

7a. NEW BULLETIN ON MARKETING BOXED APPLES.

Department Bulletin No. 1415, entitled "Marketing Western Boxed Apples," has just come from the press. Joint authors are George B. Fiske and Raymond R. Pailthorp. This bulletin covers the subject completely. Copies can be had from the Division of Information in this Bureau.

8a. MORE SPACE AVAILABLE IN "CROPS AND MARKETS."

Men in charge of field stations)
Supervising inspectors on shipping-point deals)will be interested
Men in charge of city branch offices)

to learn that, for the next six months, our F. & V. Division will have an extra page in "Crops and Markets" each week. This will make a total of three or three and a-half pages for fruit and vegetable articles. Please let us have material of interest concerning conditions in your shipping section or in your market, as frequently as you have time to submit such articles. Address contributions to Mr. Froehlich.

9a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR JUNE 19:

Page 389 - Produce Prices Incline Downward. (weekly review)
390 - Eastern Shore Potatoes, - by H. W. Schneck.
- Review of bulleton on "Marketing Peanuts." (filler)
391 - Continued Heavy Shipments of Mexican Truck Crops.
- Hauling Berries by Truck, - by H. W. Schneck and A. Stambaugh.
392 - East Texas Tomatoes Delayed, - by W. F.Cox.
- Mississippi Tomatoes Very Late, - by J. D. Evers.
- Review of bulletin on "Marketing Barreled Apples."
- Egyptian Onion Shipments.
400 - The Foreign Onion Situation.
-- Increased German Imports of Foodstuffs from Italy.

10a. ADDITIONAL REPORTS ON FOREIGN CROPS.

The Foreign Marketing Section has issued the following additional mimeographed reports: F.S.:O-32, "Spanish Onion Shipments." "Egyptian Onion Shipments." F.S.:F-27, "Fruit Crops Damaged in Southern Europe."

11a. "MARKETING BARRELED APPLES" - A NEW BULLETIN.

"Marketing Barreled Apples" is the title of Department Bulletin No.1416, received from the Printing Office this morning. George B. Fiske is the author and copies can be had from the Division of Information in this Bureau.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. STRAWBERRY MARKET REPORTS DISCONTINUED.

Mimeographed market reports on strawberries were discontinued in Washington on Saturday, June 19.

2b. NORTH TEXAS BERMUDA ONION DEAL.

A detailed report of June 19 by W. D. Googe calls attention to the draggy condition of the f.o.b. onion market in Collin County and adjacent parts of northern Texas. Very few buyers are on the ground and city demand is limited. Shortage of crates was restricting the loading to some extent. Peak shipments were expected today (June 25), and probably 90% of all shipments for the season will carry Federal-State certificates of inspection.

3b. FORWARD COMMENTS RECEIVED ON POTATO SHIPMENT FORECASTS.

The semi-weekly forecasts of prospective potato shipments are wired upon release to all market news offices and potato field stations, for inclusion in their bulletins the following day and for other distribution. They also are sent to inspectors who contribute to the forecast. Both market news men and inspectors are asked to send to Washington any letters of comment which they may receive and to forward any criticism, either favorable or unfavorable, which they may hear. We want to know what growers, shippers and receivers think of the reports, and whether they are being used as a practical marketing aid.

4b. PEACHES CAN BE QUOTED BY PACK OR SIZE.

Item 2b in last week's D.L. was not intended to restrict the quotation of peaches in crates to size terms only. If sales of crate peaches in your city are made on a 2 x 3 basis, for example, and the local dealers prefer stock described in that way, there is no objection to using 2 x 3 or other pack terms in your local report.

Peaches in baskets can be quoted either by size terms or by the minimum diameter in inches, as outlined last week. In all reports containing peach quotations, an occasional statement should appear, indicating the size terms that go with the appropriate pack and minimum diameter designations, using the comparisons given in Par. 2b, D.L. for June 18.

E. W. STILLWELL,
Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

Stations	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably will close
WILMINGTON, N. C.** 102 Custom House	805	R. H. Lamb	Berries*	May 1	May 29*
			Lettuce*	May 6	June 3*
			Potatoes	June 4	June 30
			Stg.Beans	June 1	June 30
			Cucumbers	June 21	July 3
EL CENTRO, CALIF. Barbara Worth Hotel	808	C. E. Schultz A. E. Prugh	Cants.	May 11	July 3
POCOMOKE CITY, MD.** Peninsula Bldg.	878	H. E. Rutland	Berries*	May 21	June 18*
			Potatoes	June 14	July 31
MACON, GA.** 620 Bibb Bldg.	833	R. H. Shoemaker	Peaches	June 7	July 24
CRYSTAL SPRINGS, MISS. Howell Bldg.	809	J. D. Evers	Tomatoes	June 5	July 3
JACKSONVILLE, TEXAS** First Nat'l Bank Bldg.	811	W. F. Cox	Tomatoes	June 4	July 3
ELIZABETH CITY, N. C. Chamber of Commerce	810	W. G. Lensen	Potatoes	June 7	June 30
VALDOSTA, GA.**	832	R. L. Sutton	W-melons	June 29	July 24

The following station probably will open about date indicated:

PHOENIX, ARIZ.	815	A. E. Prugh	Cants.	July 1	July 24

The following station closed on date indicated:

LEESBURG, FLA.** Wiley-Coulson Bldg., MAIL: P.O. Box 591.	832	R. L. Sutton	W-melons	May 28	June 25
			Tomatoes	May 28	June 25

**State cooperating. *Reports discontinued.

W. H. Mosier at Farmersville, Texas.

TEMPORARY HEADQUARTERS OF EASTERN AND SOUTHERN SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION DEALS:

State	Federal Supervisor	Products	Approx. date of Opening	Approx. date of Closing
TEXAS:	H. T. Longino, Jacksonville, Texas	Tomatoes	June 1	July 3
	W. H. Mosier Farmersville, Texas	Onions	June 3	July 10
ARKANSAS:	G. W. Winfrey, Van Buren, Ark.	Strawberries*	May 3	May 29*
		Cabbage*	June 4	June 15*
		Beans*	June 5	June 18*
		Blackberries*	June 4	June 18*
		Onions	June 10	July 10
		Potatoes	June 12	July 3
		Tomatoes	June 12	July 3
MISSISSIPPI:	F. S. Kinsey, Crystal Springs, Miss.	Vegetables	May 3	July 1
VIRGINIA:	K. W. Schaible, P. O. Box 126, Cape Charles, Va.	Berries*	May 17	June 5*
		Cabbage	May 24	June 26
		Potatoes	June 10	July 24
MARYLAND:	Robert Bier	Berries*	May 21	June 19*
	H. W. Schneck, Pocomoke City, Md.	Potatoes	June 15	July 31
GEORGIA:	C. G. Strauss, Hotel Macon, Macon, Ga.	Peaches	June 1	July 31
	J. C. Townsend, Jr., Marshallville, Ga.	Peaches	June 11	July 15
	J. A. Marks, P. O. Box 66, Fort Valley, Ga.	Peaches	June 11	July 24
OKLAHOMA:	M. C. Gregory, Baltimore Hotel, Muskogee, Okla.	Potatoes	June 1	July 3
KANSAS:	A. S. Mason, Farm Bureau Office, Topeka, Kans.	Potatoes	July 5	July 31

NOTE: Supervisors should promptly send corrections of data in above columns.
*Service completed on products market with star.
C. D. Shirley temporarily in San Antonio, Texas.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. INSPECTORS' TRAINING CLASS IN CHICAGO.

Beginning July 1, a new training class for inspectors will be started in Chicago. Members definitely listed for this class at present are:

K. W. Schaible, of the Cape Charles office.
R. H. Von Glahn, of the Jacksonville office.
H. F. Willson, of the Market News Service.
L. D. Byrd and H. L. Harrington) new appointees to Inspection Service.

The next item is from California Inspectors' Notes, June 18:

2c. FIRST CALIFORNIA GRAPES INSPECTED.

The first car of grapes of the season was inspected at Coachella on June 16 by Joe Foster. This is the first time that grapes and onions have been inspected on the same day in the district, the overlapping being due to the early grape season this year. Shipments will not be heavy until the end of next week, Harmon advises, - or until around June 25.

Some difficulty with mildew is reported by Harold Poulsen. Last year's Regulatory Announcement No. 17 covering grapes is still in force at the present time.

3c. SEND IN TOTALS ON SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTIONS BY JULY 3.

It is highly important that a report of the total number of shipping-point inspections made during the year in each State be mailed to the Washington office not later than July 3. The Annual Report of the Bureau must be completed during the first few days of July and this information is absolutely essential. In the past, it has been necessary to wire for certain figures in order to complete this information. Let each shipping-point supervisor see that this information is forwarded as requested. Don't let your State be the only one which is behind time in forwarding a final report for the year. The final monthly report by products should be forwarded at the same time.

The next four items are from a letter written by F. E. Bailey on June 18:

4c. RASPBERRY SHIPMENTS IN STATE OF WASHINGTON.

"Raspberries started moving from the Sumner-Puyallup section in carload lots about May 29, and at the present time six to nine cars a day are rolling from the two stations. Most of the cars carry a few crates of loganberries also."

5c. GOOD QUALITY LETTUCE IN SEATTLE DISTRICT.

"The quality of the head lettuce around Seattle and Sumner is the best this year that I have seen there. The heads are generally more solid and show less slime than usual, although a change in weather may bring on an extensive development of the latter at any time."

6c. NEW PROBLEM FOR WASHINGTON POTATO SHIPPERS.

"A new problem entered into the movement of Washington's early potato crop this year. The Colorado potato beetle is now present in eastern Washington and growers in the western part of the State asked the State Department of Agriculture to quarantine the eastern part. This was done and all potatoes moving from eastern to western Washington are required to be screened at the car door and placed in new sacks, an operation which would be disastrous to new potatoes. Upon petition of the early potato growers, the Department granted them the option of cleaning up their fields under the supervision of the horticultural inspectors, following which an affidavit is issued by the inspector, stating that the stock in the car is from a field free from the beetle, and such cars may move into western Washington. Each field has been inspected three to five times during the growing season and a final inspection is made within 24 hours prior to the start of digging. The inspectors also watch to see that no smuggling from infested fields is practiced. The State Department is charging $7.50 per car for this service and will give a cooperative Federal-State shipping-point certificate without additional charge when it is requested. From 50% to 70% of the eastern Washington crop moves into the western part of the State; the remainder moves east. Practically none of the early crop will move into Oregon or California, which still require screening at the car door for all shipments entering their States from eastern Washington."

7c. HAIL DAMAGES NORTHWESTERN CROPS.

"Some quite erratic weather during the past week has done considerable damage to fruit and grain crops in the Northwest through hail and cloudbursts. I just learned of one 600-acre apple orchard in the northeastern part of Washington, that recently had an excellent crop prospect ruined by hail which cut up all but a few acres. A Wenatchee shipper told me yesterday that hail had struck several localities in his district. Apple orchards in other parts of the State are reporting hail injury."

INSPECTORS: See Par. 3b, page 371.

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

OFFICE NOTES:

Effective Monday, June 28, the PITTSBURGH office will be moved to 313 Fruit Exchange Bldg., 21st Street and Penn Avenue. Telephone numbers remain the same as at present. Please be sure to address all mail or other communications for Pittsburgh men to the new location immediately.

MONDAY, JULY 5, will be observed as a holiday in all offices, because July 4 comes on a Sunday this year.

OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

Harold L. Harrington, of the State of Washington, has been appointed as an Assistant Marketing Specialist, and will report for training in inspection work at the Chicago office on July 1. Mr. Harrington received his B.S. degree from Massachusetts Agricultural College in 1920. For a while he was employed as produce market news reporter in Worcester, Mass., and from January, 1922, to January, 1924, was an instructor in horticulture at the Georgia State College of Agriculture. During the greater part of 1924, he worked on a fruit ranch at Wenatchee, Wash., and has since been employed as a Deputy Horticultural Inspector and as Assistant District Horticultural Inspector in the State of Washington.

Lonnie D. Byrd, of North Carolina, also has been appointed as an Assistant Marketing Specialist. He, too, will join the inspectors' training class in Chicago July 1. Mr. Byrd is a high school graduate and has completed correspondence courses in marketing fruits and vegetables. He was a railway mail clerk from 1909 to 1911, and later had considerable experience buying vegetables for produce dealers. Since October, 1924, Mr. Byrd has been employed by Joseph H. Baker & Co., Norfolk, Va., wholesale distributors of fruits and vegetables.

R. H. VonGlahn, who has been handling the inspections of express shipments at Jacksonville, Fla., will report in Chicago on July 1, to take further training in inspection work.

K. R. Nutting, of the California inspection staff, should now be addressed at 119 Main Street, Sebastopol, Calif., where he is located on the apple inspection deal.

Having returned to the Washington office yesterday, Mr. Stillwell reports that, on his western trip, he found an increasing interest in the market news work on the part of growers and shippers and a general satisfaction with the program. There are, of course, continued demands for an extension of the service along certain lines, but these demands cannot always be met.

G. A. DeHaven returned yesterday from his brief vacation in Pennsylvania. He left today for Philadelphia, Trenton, Pocomoke City, Md., and points on the Eastern Shore, where he will make a study of produce shipments by truck.

Word from Edwin Smith indicates that he will be in Rochester, N.Y., on Monday and Tuesday, June 28 and 29, and then will be on leave at Lodi, N.Y. (care of Clarence Smith) from June 30 to July 5.

When the Crystal Springs, Miss., tomato deal is finished, J. D. Evers will proceed to Boston and assist with inspection work there for a few weeks. This will permit O. N. Harsha, who has been helping in Boston, to go to New York City and substitute for inspectors who will be taking their leave.

After July 1, A. S. Mason should be addressed in care of Farm Bureau Office, Topeka, Kans. He will handle the Kaw Valley potato inspection deal.

OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

Robert Bier left on Wednesday for Pocomoke City, Md., from which point he will supervise the Eastern Shore potato inspection work for several weeks. H. W. Schneck will continue to help with this work another week or 10 days, and then will go to New York City. K. W. Schaible will leave the Cape Charles office next week and proceed to Chicago to join the inspectors' training class.

W. C. Lynn has succeeded Kenneth Hankinson on the New Jersey State staff, in special charge of inspection work. Mr. Lynn formerly handled similar work at Harrisburg, Pa. On May 23, Mr. and Mrs. Lynn announced the birth of a daughter, Shirley Ruth.

Mr. Samson returned from Pittsburgh and Mr. Stambaugh from Pocomoke City, Md., last Monday. Mr. Stambaugh had been assisting with the market news work on the Eastern Shore of Maryland.

E. E. Conklin, Jr., can be reached in care of the Secretary, Arizona Industrial Congress, Phoenix, Arizona, between June 25 and July 5. He has gone there from Sacramento, to inaugurate the shipping-point inspection service on cantaloupes.

The Philadelphia office expects to handle shipping-point inspections of raspberries and blackberries for the American Railway Express Company in the Hammonton section of New Jersey again this season.

Temporary appointments are being given again to S. W. Leitzer, New York City, and E. T. Garlick, Philadelphia, who report the auctions in those markets from July 1 to the end of the grape season.

The SAN ANTONIO office of the Market News Service closes on June 30, and the watermelon market reports, being issued there, will be transferred to the Fort Worth office. J. A. Hunter, of San Antonio, will go on leave the first two weeks of July.

E. J. Maynard, of the Chicago inspection staff, will be on vacation at Fremont, Mich., from June 26 to July 13. He can be reached in care of George Dickinson, at Fremont.

F. A. Curtis, head clerk of the New York City office, is handling the market news work in Newark, N. J., during the absence of W. H. Steinbauer. Word from Mr. Steinbauer, who is at his home in Saginaw, Mich., indicates that his health is improving.

Congratulations are extended R. H. Lamb and best wishes to his bride, who was Miss Dessie Elizabeth Gentry. The marriage occurred in Florida about March 13, but news of the happy event has only now reached this office. Mr. Lamb is in charge of the Wilmington, N.C., field station.

C. H. Behnke left Chicago Wednesday evening for St. Louis, where he will substitute for L. G.C. Peirce, while the latter is on annual leave.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 7, NO. 27.
July 2, 1926.
(Contents Confidential)

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE FIELD FORCE:

The Division Letter for June 18 contained 21 pages and ended with a request for comments as to its length and for suggestions as to what, if anything, should have been omitted. Up to July 1 only six replies had been received from the field. These indicate some slight differences of opinion. The project leaders feel that there is danger of making the D.L. so long that it will not be carefully read and that important instructions may be overlooked.

I am asking the editor, therefore, to hold this publication down to its original purpose and scope, and to publish only (a) items of information which the force should know, (b) instructions which must be observed, (c) records needed for reference, (d) office notes of interest to those in the field or in travel status, and (e) a few letters or abstracts from letters which are of direct interest or importance to the men in one of the major projects.

Every man in the field is held responsible for instructions appearing in the introductory part of the D.L. and in that section relating to his own project. Failure to read and observe these instructions counts against the efficiency of the employee.

This is the second D.L. of the original type, which was resumed last week (June 25). If we are omitting any class of material which you think you ought to have, please say so.

WELLS A. SHERMAN,
Specialist in Charge, F.&V. Div.

1a. IS THIS SOMETHING NEW? REPLY IF YOU CAN.

In a recent letter, F. E. Bailey describes four modern lettuce-packing warehouses, with precooling facilities, built by both the Great Northern and Northern Pacific railroads and leased to shippers or to growers' associations. The distinctly new feature is the precooling between the trimming and packing processes. The cooling room is a reservoir from which the packers can be kept continuously at work, while operations in the trimming room vary with the volume of haulings from the field.

Do any members of the force know of any other instances in which railroads have built facilities for preparing or processing perishables at shipping points, prior to loading on cars? If so, please write us all about them. The old theory is that the carriers furnish nothing but transportation and temporary storage for receipt and delivery of goods.

W.A.S.

2a. NEW REPORTS BY THE FOREIGN MARKETING SECTION:

F.S.:A-54, "The Apple Industry of the Tyrol,"
F.S.:A-55, "Notes on the Apple Industry of Czechoslovakia,"
F.S.:A-56, "The Apple Industry of Switzerland,"
F.S.:N-9, "Sicilian Nut Prospects."

all by Edwin Smith

3a. REPORT NEW MECHANICAL PROCESSES.

F. E. Bailey, of the Spokane office, writes that cherries have been handled successfully this year on grading belts and through machines made by the Cutler company. The machines have increased the rapidity and efficiency of the work.

We hope all our men will report new mechanical processes and marked improvements on former mechanical methods wherever they may be found. Such letters will be noted by the project leader most interested and by Mr. Sherman, whether published in full in the D.L. or not.

4a. SUMMARY OF CALIFORNIA, ARIZONA AND NEVADA SHIPMENTS, 1925.

The Los Angeles office has issued its mimeographed summary of carlot shipments of 36 fruits and vegetables from stations in California, Arizona and Nevada for the year 1925. This annual report covers almost 242,000 cars in California, besides several thousand in the other States. The front cover bears the names of Homer A. Harris and Miss Opal V. Yeoman as joint compilers. Copies of the summary can be had from Los Angeles.

5a. JUNE SUPPLEMENT TO "CROPS AND MARKETS."

The June Supplement to "Crops and Markets" was distributed on June 30. The fruit and vegetable contents of this issue are not being indexed here, as has been the custom, and the usual index to these monthly statistical supplements will not be published in the future, unless there is a general demand for this feature in the D.L.

6a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR JUNE 26:

Page 405 - Special paragraphs on potatoes in the weekly review.
407 - Active Demand for North Carolina Potatoes, - by W. G. Lensen.
- Colorado Lettuce and Mixed Vegetables, - Wendell Calhoun.
- Additional Stations of Market News Service.
408 - Florida Melon Shipments Light, - by R. L. Sutton.
413 - Fruit Crops Damaged in Southern Europe.
- Special Inspection Service in Cleveland.



MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. CODE CHANGES ON CANTALOUPE AND ONION PAGES. (Effective July 9)

On "KU" (Cantaloupes) page of the code, change

KUG square boxes to read
KUG jumbo flats 12s and 15s

On "NA-NE" (Onions) page of the code, change

NEB 140-lb. sacks to read
NEB 110-lb. sacks

2b. CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION IN F.O.B. WIRES.

F.o.b. wires frequently have additional comments at the end regarding crop or marketing conditions that are interesting and valuable. We are glad to have this added information. Occasionally, however, we are uncertain whether the field man merely included the news as a matter of information, not to be published, or whether it was material which he planned to publish locally and for which he desired general publicity. To avoid any uncertainty in the future, whenever material is given in f.o.b. wires which the field man thinks should not be published, it should be placed at the end of the wire, preceded by the words "your information" or "confidential."

3b. CORRECTION IN TABLE OF PACKAGES PER CARLOAD.

In the Table of Packages per Carload, revised March 15 and mailed out to all market news men and inspectors shortly thereafter, the asparagus figures for California and South Carolina should be changed to read as follows:

	Range	Usual or Average No.
N. California, crates, freight	576-608	600
express	608-720	650
Imperial Valley, crates, freight		716
express		716
South Carolina	400-500	460

4b. KAW VALLEY POTATO SITUATION.

Kaw Valley potato prospects, based on a field survey made by Mr. Clark and State officials June 21 and 22, are only fair. Although vine growth is good and the tops would indicate a very good yield, the set of tubers in general is light, due chiefly to dry weather. Some untreated fields also have a light set, as a result of rhizoctonia. However, the tubers which have set are of good size and the quality will be good, according to a report released by Mr. Stokdyk, of the Kansas Agricultural College.

The crop is somewhat late. Little, if any, movement is expected to occur before July 5. Moderate movement is expected by July 10 and peak shipments during the week beginning July 18. Present prospects are for a total of 3,300 cars from the Kaw Valley, compared with 2,700 in 1925 and 4,800 in 1924.

5b. COLORADO LETTUCE SHIPMENTS DELAYED.

A letter of June 22, from Wendell Calhoun, of the Denver office, indicates that generally cool weather throughout the Colorado lettuce districts is retarding the growth but should make good lettuce. In view of the present condition of the market, shippers are not in a hurry to harvest their crop or to forward shipments. Movement may not become active before July 1. Some of the first cars from the San Luis Valley will contain peas and lettuce, peas being much earlier than last year. A few cars of lettuce will be shipped from Newcastle, on the Western Slope, about July 1, but most of the acreage there will mature later.

6b. NEW YORK SEASON FOR BERMUDA PRODUCTS CLOSING.

Mr. Stanton has written a special article, emphasizing the importance of New York City as a market for Bermuda vegetables. From November to June, slightly over 230,000 packages arrived from Bermuda, including more than 30,000 barrels of potatoes. About 37,000 crates of excellent celery have already been received. Beets, carrots, onions and parsley constitute most of the other shipments. January, February and March are the months of heaviest arrivals, and probably 80% to 90% of the total receipts from Bermuda are consumed in the New York City district.

7b. FRUITA DISTRICT POTATO CROP REDUCED.

Originally, the local estimates of the Fruita district potato crop on the Western Slope of Colorado indicated about 525 cars this season. Recently, two different reports of crop damage have been received through the Denver office. Several rains, followed by hot weather during the growing period, appear to have reduced the original prospects by at least 25%. One report stated that mosaic was causing the trouble. However, a member of the horticultural staff, Colorado College of Agriculture, advises that rhizoctonia is responsible for most of the crop decrease.

In a wire of June 28, Mr. Calhoun added: "All factors in Fruita potato deal seem agreed that crop will be reduced 40 to 60% from original estimates. Digging will be general this week and actual yields can then be determined."

8b. ATLANTA REPORTS APPRECIATED.

In replying to a recent circularization of the Atlanta mailing list, most of the applicants for continuation of the daily bulletins expressed their appreciation of the service. One of the more interesting letters came from the Farmers' Market Master in a Georgia city, who wrote as follows:

"I value your service more than I can express. From information derived therefrom, I am able to set prices on my curb market with fairness to consumer and producer, as well as local merchants. Please continue to supply me with this knowledge I have grown to rely upon."

THE CONSUMER'S DOLLAR was distributed as follows for California (Sunkist) oranges during the year 1924-25: About 25¢ to the retailer, 7½¢ to jobber, 15¢ for transportation, 1½¢ for selling and advertising, 9¢ for picking, hauling and packing, and 42¢ for the fruit on the tree.

9b. BRIEF NOTES ON VARIOUS DEALS:

- H. E. Rutland advised from Pocomoke City that the potato yields on Eastern Shore of Virginia are light and local estimates indicate a movement of not more than 10,000 cars this season. The Maryland crop appears to be better; first shipments are now moving.

- R. L. Ringer published on June 19 a special mimeographed report on the outlook for Walla Walla onions and on the general onion situation in the West. This contains interesting and valuable data. Copies can be had from Mr. Ringer, in charge of the Portland office.

- The commercial peach crop in South Carolina may total 600 or 650 cars, according to word from George E. Prince. Georgia Belles and Elbertas are the leading varieties. About 200 carloads will be consumed locally or be trucked to nearby cities, and the remainder will move by rail. Heaviest shipments are expected around July 20, with the season closing about August 15.

- Watermelon acreage in the Imperial Valley this season is the largest ever planted, according to a special report by A. E. Prugh, who was at the El Centro office. About 2,700 cars had been shipped to June 26 and an additional 1,000 carloads were expected. This compares with only 2,800 last season. On the peak day, June 24, shipments of watermelons from the Valley exceeded the movement of cantaloupes. Principal varieties of watermelons grown in this district are Klondyke and Angeleno.

- R. H. Lamb advised yesterday that there are still plenty of cucumbers to move from North Carolina but that the market is extremely weak. The potato deal is nearing an end. Carman peaches are expected to start moving from the Sandhill section of North Carolina about July 8 or 10, with Hileys following about July 20.

10b. STATION SHIPMENT TABULATIONS NOT AVAILABLE BY DAYS.

On January 1 last, our monthly mail report of carlot shipments by railroad station agents was changed from the old Tr-9 sheet to a card form. The new card form does not give this information by days. Frequently field men have requested shipment information by stations and by days or weeks for their summaries. Such information is no longer available. We can still furnish tabulations showing shipments by stations and counties and by months, but not for shorter periods.

11b. PHILADELPHIA REPORTS NOW HANDLED BY ASSOCIATED PRESS.

Wm. R. Whitacre, State market reporter in our Philadelphia office, had been sending a daily summary of the Philadelphia market by mail to the leading newspapers of eastern Pennsylvania. The Associated Press now has consented to handle this report and it goes by wire to a number of morning papers in that part of the State, thereby receiving more prompt distribution. Some of the papers give the report as much as six or seven inches of space. The United Press also is becoming interested in this special service and may aid further in its dissemination.

POSSIBLY 1,000 CARS, mostly Honey Dews, were expected to move from the Imperial Valley between July 1 and the end of the season about July 20, according to a wire from C. E. Schultz, when he closed the El Centro field station.

12b. CROP REPORT COMES ON A HALF-HOLIDAY.

The Division of Crop Estimates works on Saturday half-holidays and on Sundays, if necessary, to maintain its schedule of crop reports, and expects to release the July report at 3 P.M. on Saturday, July 10. Because this is a half-holiday in all our offices, no attempt will be made by us to wire the information to any branch office or field station before Monday, July 12.

13b. MORE NEWS ON NORTH TEXAS ONIONS.

In a letter of June 28, W. D. Googe advised further that heavy rains last week had restricted digging and hauling of Bermuda onions in Collin County and adjacent sections of Texas, and there is some question as to the extent of damage to the bulbs. There probably will be a greater volume of oversized stock. About 250 cars had been forwarded to date, which is one-third the estimated total movement of Bermuda onions. Prizetakers will not start before the latter part of July.

14b. THE ST. LOUIS TOMATO MARKET.

A letter from T. R. Hall, of the St. Louis office, indicates that most of the tomato arrivals from Mississippi are pink unwrapped stock, because the local trade prefers that class of goods. Apparently only one firm, catering to the better trade in St. Louis, receives green wrapped tomatoes. This explains why Mr. Hall consistently quotes on the pink unwrapped stock, even though the Mississippi f.o.b. reports include only green wraps.

E. W. STILLWELL,
Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

Stations	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably will close
POCOMOKE CITY, MD.** Peninsula Bldg.	878	H. E. Rutland	Berries*	May 21	June 18*
			Potatoes	June 14	July 31
MACON, GA.** 620 Bibb Bldg.	833	R. H. Shoemaker	Peaches	June 7	July 24
VALDOSTA, GA.**	832	R. L. Sutton	W-melons	June 29	July 24
PHOENIX, ARIZ.	815	A. E. Prugh	Cants.	July 1	July 24
The following station probably will open about date indicated:					
ABERDEEN, N. C.**	935	R. H. Lamb	Peaches	July 12	Aug. 7
The following stations closed on dates indicated:					
WILMINGTON, N. C.** 102 Custom House	805	R. H. Lamb	Berries	May 1	May 29
			Lettuce	May 6	June 3
			Potatoes	June 4	July 3
			Stg.Beans	June 1	June 26
			Cucumbers	June 21	July 3
EL CENTRO, CALIF. Barbara Worth Hotel	808	C. E. Schultz	Cants.	May 11	July 2
CRYSTAL SPRINGS, MISS. Howell Bldg.	809	J. D. Evers	Tomatoes	June 5	June 30
JACKSONVILLE, TEXAS** First Nat'l Bank Bldg.	811	W. F. Cox	Tomatoes	June 4	July 2
ELIZABETH CITY, N. C. Chamber of Commerce	810	W. G. Lensen	Potatoes	June 7	July 3

**State cooperating. *Reports discontinued.

TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENTS:

W. H. Mosier at Farmersville, Texas.
R. H. Lamb at Wilmington, N.C., until July 7; then at Aberdeen, N.C.
C. E. Schultz at Los Angeles office.
J. D. Evers at Boston office
W. F. Cox at Fort Worth office.
W. G. Lensen at Washington office.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. RECORDING THERMOMETERS IN EXPRESS CARS.

Some American Railway Express cars are equipped with recording thermometers. The Express Company has requested that certificates issued by our service on cars so equipped show the position of these thermometers. This information should be given under "Condition of Car." The statement should show height of thermometer above floor of car, height above top of load and distance from door. No attempt should be made to show temperatures recorded by the thermometers.

2c. RECEIVING-POINT CERTIFICATES ON EASTERN SHORE POTATOES.

Tests are being made under the direction of Bureau of Plant Industry to determine the advantages of refrigerator over box cars for the shipment of Eastern Shore potatoes. It is desired to know not only the difference in percentage of decay in the two types of cars but also whether more decay is found in the ends than near the doorways of box cars. Receiving-point certificates on these cars, therefore, should show differences, if any, in decay in middle and end portions of box-car shipments on which inspection may be requested. No special records need be kept of these differences, which will be tabulated from the certificates at the end of the season.

The next two items are from California Inspectors' Notes, June 25, 1926:

3c. TURLOCK MELON OUTLOOK.

Between 2,500 and 3,000 acres of cantaloupes and about 2,800 acres of Honey Dews and Casabas in the Turlock district this year is the estimate of growers and shippers, writes Bill Harmon, who is lining up the deal there. Mr. Harmon, however, thinks that 1,000 to 1,500 acres of these melons will be destroyed by aphis or other causes before they reach maturity.

The cantaloupe crown set is light but of good quality. Express shipments probably will start by July 5 in the Turlock district, and freight movement about a week later.

4c. SEBASTOPOL APPLES BEGINNING TO MOVE.

Sebastopol apple shippers are hoping to put out a car of "Fancy" apples this week end (June 26). If it proves impossible to keep out the immature stock, they will have to ship the car as "unclassified." A number of cars of loose apples have already been shipped, and general movement will be in full swing in 10 days.

5c. OFFICIAL GRADES FOR UTAH PRODUCTS.

Copies of a booklet entitled: "Official Grades for the Standardization of Utah Farm Products, 1926" are being distributed today to inspectors who will have most use for this information. Only 75 copies of the booklet were received from Utah; therefore, it was impossible to send copies to all the men.

6c. SIZE OF MISSISSIPPI TOMATOES.

The following information from Mr. Kinsey, regarding the policy of shippers in selling Mississippi tomatoes this year, should be of interest to all inspectors. His letter is dated June 28:

"The Growers' League, of the Mississippi trucking section, forced the shippers to accept 20 tomatoes to the basket as No. 1. The night riders have never ridden, but they hold secret meetings over their affairs, issue decrees, talk on the streets in groups suspiciously, and have parades, as they did over the '80 for No. 1' proposition. So the shippers had to throw up their hands and submit.

"The growers started the move, knowing that the U. S. grades do not recognize size as affecting grade and knowing that we have accepted 20 to the basket in No. 1 cars in the past, if the shipper occasionally acquiesced.

"This season we have turned down truckloads where we found more than 20 to the basket for No. 1, unless occasionally a shipper told us to let them go in. We have examined an average of about 40 flats per car, or nearer 60 in No. 2 cars, and have stated upon the certificates the counts per basket noted, with a mostly. We have not regarded the flat as a unit, because the count per basket frequently varies in the flat.

"The Growers' League decreed that last Thursday and Friday picking must stop, for the price to recuperate. This cut the shipments and inspections materially and, while the ban was off Saturday, shipments remained light, as the price went lower instead of higher. This move on the part of the growers and the poor price has cut our total inspections quite appreciably. We have only five inspectors on today, and tomorrow or the next day will see the finish. I judge several hundred cars of tomatoes will go unpicked.

"On one of the off days last week, a large mob gathered on the loading tracks at Hazlehurst, trying to stop some loading that was going on. But the sheriff paraded around with his gun and no violence was done."

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

TEMPORARY HEADQUARTERS OF EASTERN AND SOUTHERN SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION DEALS:

State	Federal Supervisor	Products	Approx. date of Opening	Approx. date of Closing
TEXAS:	H. T. Longino, Jacksonville, Texas	Tomatoes	June 1	July 10
	W. H. Mosier Farmersville, Texas	Onions	June 3	July 10
ARKANSAS:	G. W. Winfrey, Van Buren, Ark.	Strawberries*	May 3	May 29*
		Cabbage*	June 4	June 15*
		Beans*	June 5	June 18*
		Blackberries*	June 4	June 18*
		Onions	June 10	July 10
		Potatoes	June 12	July 3
		Tomatoes	June 15	July 15
		Cucumbers	June 28	July 10
		Cantaloupes	July 5	July 31
MARYLAND AND VIRGINIA:	Robert Bier,	Berries*	May 21	June 19*
	H. W. Schneck, Pocomoke City, Md.	Potatoes	June 15	July 31
GEORGIA:	O. G. Strauss, Hotel Macon, Macon, Ga.	Peaches	June 1	July 31
	J. C. Townsend, Jr., Marshallville, Ga.	Peaches	June 11	July 15
	J. A. Marks, P. O. Box 66, Fort Valley, Ga.	Peaches	June 11	July 24
OKLAHOMA:	M. C. Gregory, Baltimore Hotel, Muskogee, Okla.	Potatoes	June 1	July 10
KANSAS:	A. S. Mason, Farm Bureau Office, Topeka, Kans.	Potatoes	July 5	July 31
IOWA:	C. D. Shirley, Pleasant Valley, Ia.	Onions	July 8	July 31
INDIANA:	J. E. Dickerson, Chamber of Commerce, Vincennes, Ind.	Vegetables	July 5	Aug. 15
The following stations closed about dates indicated:				
MISSISSIPPI:	F. S. Kinsey, Crystal Springs, Miss.	Vegetables	May 3	July 1
VIRGINIA:	K. W. Schaible, Cape Charles, Va.	Berries	May 17	June 5
		Cabbage	May 24	June 26
		Potatoes	June 10	June 30

NOTE:- Supervisors should promptly send corrections of data in above columns.
*Service completed on products marked with a star.

OFFICE NOTES:

Robert G. Hill returned to the Washington office on Monday from his trip to Carolina points in the interest of standardization work.

The market news service at Jacksonville, Fla., in addition to that at San Antonio, Texas, was discontinued on June 30 for the present season. The terminus of the southern leased wire circuit is now Atlanta and the farthest station on the southwestern circuit is Fort Worth.

W. E. Harrison, of the Baltimore office, was in Washington yesterday afternoon, conferring on matters relating to the work in Baltimore.

K. W. Schaible stopped at the Washington office en route from Cape Charles, Va., to Chicago, where he joined the inspectors' training class on Thursday. Robert Bier, who is located at Pocomoke City, Md., will now supervise all the inspection work on the Eastern Shore of both Virginia and Maryland.

R. M. Peterson, of the Minneapolis office, returned from his leave the early part of this week.

Five field stations of the Market News Service have closed or are expected to close this week. Future assignments of the men in charge are as follows: C. E. Schultz goes from El Centro to Los Angeles, to work up his summary of the cantaloupe deal and to assist Mr. Harris. R. H. Lamb will remain at Wilmington, N.C., until the middle of next week and then proceed to Aberdeen, N.C., where he will operate the news service on peaches. J. D. Evers is now en route from Crystal Springs, Miss., to Boston, where he will assist with inspection work.

W. F. Cox goes from Jacksonville, Texas, to the Fort Worth office, to assist there while Mr. Googe takes some leave. W. G. Lensen will return to the Washington office from Elizabeth City, N.C.

At last report, R. W. Davis was to visit points in central Mississippi yesterday and today, returning to the New Orleans office Saturday. Early next week, he will proceed to Macon, Ga., to confer with Federal representatives, growers and shippers in that section regarding standard containers.

The Orrick, Mo., potato inspection deal will be supervised from Kansas City by K. S. Branch, beginning within the next week. The actual inspections will be handled by Mr. Gobble, of the State staff, who has worked on this deal the last two seasons.

Mrs. Lerlie Baum has been given the clerical position in Mr. Butner's office, Chicago, recently vacated by Mrs. Lewis.

A conference of Colorado Inspectors in Charge - L. W. Brewer, G. N. Lynch and J. R. Sheely - was held in the Denver office on June 17 and 18, to discuss the various State problems of the different districts and to better standardize the inspection work in Colorado.

OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

State officials who have recently conferred with Mr. Robb and others in Washington include J. H. Meek, of Virginia; John W. Smith, Commissioner of Agriculture in West Virginia; B. B. Jones, of the Wisconsin staff; and M. L. Dean, Director of the Division of Horticulture, in Idaho. Conferences related to questions of grading and inspection and to the renewal of cooperative agreements for the coming year. Mr. Smith reported prospects for a large increase in inspections of West Virginia apples, and for a new inspection deal on potatoes in that State.

Having closed the Crystal Springs, Miss., inspection headquarters yesterday, F. S. Kinsey has gone to Jackson, Miss., until his next assignment.

G. D. Clark, of the Kansas City office, visited the Kaw Valley of Kansas on June 21 and 22, in company with Mr. Stokdyk, Marketing Specialist, and Mr. Metzger, County Agent of Shawnee County. A survey was made of the potato fields and on Tuesday evening a meeting was held with a group of growers at Lawrence, Kans. Mr. Clark will issue special potato market reports for the Kaw Valley district of Kansas and the Orrick section of Missouri.

While supervising inspection work in southern Indiana, starting next week, J. E. Dickerson can be reached in care of the Chamber of Commerce, Vincennes, Ind.

C. D. Shirley has completed his supervision of a small inspection deal on watermelons in southern Texas and is now driving to Iowa, where he will handle the onion inspection work beginning about July 8. His headquarters will be at Pleasant Valley, Iowa.

A. E. Prugh has gone from El Centro, Calif., to Phoenix, Ariz., for the purpose of issuing market reports on Arizona cantaloupes.

We are glad to report that W. H. Steinbauer has recovered from his recent illness and is again on duty at Newark, N.J.

W. J. Bertush, who had been assisting with Pittsburgh inspection work for a number of weeks, returned to Chicago about July 1.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D.C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER VOL.7, NO. 28.
July 9, 1926.
(Contents Confidential)

1a. CANTALOUPE GROWERS' RETURNS.

C.E. Schultz advised from El Centro, Calif., that the average yield per acre of cantaloupes in the Imperial Valley this season probably did not exceed 110 crates, compared with the usual yield of 160 crates in past years. Damage from mildew is given as the cause.

Most of the crop is produced by the large distributors. Probably only 5%of the shipments have been purchased from small growers on a crate basis. About 25¢ less than the low range of the f.o.b. cash-track prices quoted at El Centro would represent a close approximation of the prices received by growers. Standard crates cost about 23¢ this season and picking, packing and hauling probably would amount to 30¢ more. These costs must be deducted to arrive at the net to grower, for his melons in the field.

2a. PEAS AND FROZEN FRUIT IN PACIFIC NORTHWEST.

At the meeting of the Pacific Northwest Advisory Board on June 30, certain commodity committee chairmen reported as follows:

"The pack of frozen fruit is considerably larger than last year. We anticipate that there will be shipped approximately 50,000 barrels of frozen berries. The movement of these berries is now taking place under refrigeration and will continue for the next four or five months. We anticipate that there probably will be 500 carloads of this commodity shipped. The product, of course, moves only from cold storage warehouses."

"There is another industry in our midst, that is growing with leaps and bounds,- that is table peas, the famous Telephone pea. Last year about 40 freight cars were shipped and approximately 100 mixed cars - lettuce and peas. This year 80 straight cars of peas have been shipped and about the same number of mixed cars of lettuce and peas. The market has been good, and it is generally conceded that we raise the best table pea in the world; it has a flavor which is all its own; it is profitable to the grower and has brought approximately 7¢ per pound f.o.b., and from all accounts the production will be doubled next year."

3a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR JULY 3:

Page 5- Special paragraphs on peaches in the weekly review.
7- Walla Walla Onions Moving, - by R.L. Ringer.
- North Texas Bermuda Onions, - by W. D. Googe.
8- Bermuda Vegetables Popular in New York, -by W. H. Stanton.
- Washington Grape Growers Successful.
- Shipping-Point Inspection of Utah Onions, - by W. Kingsbury.
- Marketing California Prunes and Apricots.
- Record Pack of Canned Peaches Expected.
11- Early Harvest of Canary Island Onion Seed.
16- Index Numbers of Agricultural Exports, May, 1926.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. CERTAIN REPORTS DISCONTINUED.

On July 3, the Washington office discontinued for this season the daily mimeographed reports on Tomatoes and on Miscellaneous Fruits and Vegetables.

2b. AUSTRALIAN BROWN ONIONS FROM SOUTH CAROLINA.

On July 6, the Washington market report included a quotation of $1.50-$1.75 per crate on Australian Brown onions from South Carolina. This is the first that Australian Browns have been received here from that State.

3b. NEW JERSEY POTATO PROSPECTS.

In a wire of July 8, E. R. Biddle said: "New Jersey potatoes moving by truck. Shipments will begin during week of July 19. Crop generally fine condition. South Jersey should ship about 2,000 cars. Truck movement will be heavy."

4b. SUMMARIES AND REVIEWS RECENTLY ISSUED:

"Western New York Peach Deal, Season of 1925," by A.E. Prugh; copies available from Washington office.

"California Fresh Peach Deal, Season of 1925," by C. J. Hansen and O. W. Holmes; copies available from San Francisco office.

"Review of Mississippi Tomato Deal, Season of 1926," published by J.D. Evers just before he closed the Crystal Springs field station.

"Brief Review of the 1926 Lettuce Season in North Carolina," published by R. H. Lamb, who is now at Aberdeen, N.C., field station.

"Preliminary Review of the 1926 Imperial Valley Cantaloupe Deal," published by C. E. Schultz, who is now in Los Angeles office.

5b. STRESS HEAVY SUPPLIES IN RADIO REPORTS.

Correspondence with the American Fruit and Vegetable Shippers Association during the past couple of years has developed the desirability of giving out information from time to time, which will guide consumers in their purchasing. The Association has been especially anxious to get publicity which would show when heaviest shipments are to be expected, the same being an indication of heavy supplies on the markets at relatively low prices. It was thought that, if wide publicity is given this information, it would tend to induce heavier purchasing, especially of fruits for canning purposes.

The Association is taking some direct steps to secure publicity for such material and we believe it will be desirable, especially for radio reports or for summaries of local markets, to include references to heavy supplies or expected heavy supplies, based on increasing shipments in important producing areas. Other pertinent comments can be included.

6b. COLD WEATHER DELAYS COLORADO LETTUCE.

Wendell Calhoun wired from Denver on July7: "Cold weather holding Colorado lettuce almost at standstill. One district reported one day last week maximum temperature 35 and ice nearly every night. Scattered cars loading this week but regular shipments not expected before 20th. One dealer predicts less than 100 cars in July, but I think that is too low. Very probable will not exceed 150 cars this month."

E. W. Stillwell,
Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

Stations	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably will close
PCCOMOKE CITY, MD.** Peninsula Bldg.	878	H. E. Rutland	Berries* Potatoes	May 21 June 14	June 18* July 31
MACON, GA.** 620 Bibb Bldg.	833	R. H. Shoemaker	Peaches	June 7	July 24
VALDOSTA, GA.** Valdes Hotel	832	R. L. Sutton	W-melons	June29	July 24
PHOENIX, ARIZ. 15 Arizona Fire Bldg.	815	A. E. Prugh	Cants.	June 29	July 24
ABERDEEN, N. C.**	935	R. H. Lamb	Peaches	July 12	Aug.7

The following station probably will open on date indicated:

MACON, GA.**	875	R. L. Sutton	W-melons	July 26	Aug.21

** State cooperating. *Reports discontinued

TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENTS:

W. H. Mosier on leave at Columbus.
C. E. Schultz at Los Angeles office.
J. D. Evers at Boston office.
W. F. Cox at Forth Worth office.
W. G. Lensen on leave in Michigan.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. REINSPECTION IN RECEIVING MARKETS OF CARS CERTIFIED BELOW GRADE AT SHIPPING POINTS.

Shippers sometimes protest because their cars were certified below grade at shipping points and demand reinspection in receiving markets.

Appeal inspections of this kind should receive particular care and should be undertaken only when access may be had to every package in the lot. This is because it must always be recognized that the inspector who finds off-grade packages is more likely to be correct in his statement as to the grade of the car as a whole than the one who, through the element of chance, finds only the better packages. An inspector at shipping point may refuse a No.1 grade on a car because he noted a truck-load of badly-off-grade packages go into this car. Receiving-point inspectors, examining the same car, may not see any of these packages and their averages, therefore, show the car up-to-grade. This, of course, is the same difficulty which is encountered in all sample inspection, but it becomes particularly serious in view of the danger of reversing a certificate which threw a car out of grade because of a small percentage of badly off-grade packages.

In such cases, therefore, receiving-market inspectors should reverse a shipping-point certificate, which showed a lot below grade, only when positive that they have seen the worst packages in the lot. This means that they must examine practically every package. As this is generally impracticable, shipping-point certificates on such cars should not be reversed on partial evidence.

Condition, restricted, or regular inspections of such cars may be made. It also is advisable, in making grade statements on such inspections, to begin with the expression: "Samples examined show _____." This will emphasize the fact that statements are based on samples and so need not necessarily agree with those made on the shipping-point certificate.

Shipping-point certificates, which show cars below grade, should always be so worded as to show whether the cars in question are below grade on account of a few badly-off-grade packages or because most packages fail to meet the grade requirements by only a few per cent. If because only a few packages are below grade, mention should be made of the location of such packages if the shipping-point inspector noticed in what part of the car they were placed.

2c. NOTES ON VARIOUS INSPECTION DEALS:

- Robert Bier advised on July 5 that the Eastern Shore potato inspection deal will be very heavy during the two weeks, July 4 to 17. The previous Saturday's shipments totaled 725 cars. The Eastern Shore of Virginia Produce Exchange is the only large shipper in that section not using our service on potatoes. About 50 men are working as inspectors in the Virginia-Maryland-Delaware peninsula.

- Messrs. Strauss, Marks and Townsend have about 30 licensees working under them in Georgia on the inspection of peaches.

3c. COLOR OF GEORGIA PEACHES.

In his Weekly News Letter No. 2, dated July 1, O. G. Strauss published the following item, addressed to peach inspectors in Georgia:

"Due to the heavy foliage on the trees in most all sections, fruit is not coloring as good as it has in the last two seasons. Color is a very important item in determining the value of a car and this should be reported with considerable care.

"Poorly colored is fruit showing no color or only a tinge of color.

"Fairly well colored is fruit showing a fair color for the variety, generally a fair blush: Hileys..... not less than 15%
Ga. Belles... " " " 10%
Elbertas..... " " " 10%

"Well colored is fruit showing a good color for the variety:
Hileys ..... 1/3 to 1/2
Ga. Belles....about 25%
Elbertas..... about 25%

"Highly colored is fruit showing exceptional color for the variety. This should be a bright color, not dull, and should cover about the following proportion of the surface: Hileys .....50% or more
Ga. Belles...30% or more
Elbertas.....30% or more."

4c. SHIPMENT TESTS ON EASTERN SHORE.

Robert Bier, of the Eastern Shore inspection headquarters at Pocomoke City, Md., is now issuing a Weekly Letter of instructions and news to all inspectors engaged on the Eastern Shore deal. The first number was dated July5, and included the following item:

"C. L. Wood and Mr. Sturtevant have been employed by Dr. L. A. Hawkins, of the Bureau of Plant Industry, who is making a series of tests to determine the advantages of refrigerator cars over box cars for shipment of Eastern Shore potatoes. Mr. Wood will be stationed at Chicago and Mr. Sturtevant at Buffalo. E. D. Mallison(formerly of our F. & V. Division) is supervising the work on the Shore from Cape Charles. About 20 of the inspectors have been supplied with thermometers, and in all cars inspected by them eight or ten readings are taken in as many different barrels located at various points in the car."

5c. DELAWARE INSPECTIONS STARTING.

Shipping-point inspection of early apples has been started at various points in Delaware, chiefly Wyoming, Bridgeville, Millsboro, Greenwood, Felton and Nassau. W. T. Derickson, Director of the State Bureau of Markets, and R. C. Wilson, Secretary of the State Board of Agriculture, went to Pocomoke City last week to confer with Mr. Bier regarding this work in Delaware. F.S. Zimmerman, of the New York City staff, is supervising the deal.

6c. AMONG THE NEW BULLETINS:

"Studies Relating to the Harvesting of Italian Prunes for Canning and Fresh Fruit Shipment" by Henry Hartman, Horticultural Dept. of O.A. C. Experiment Station, Corvallis, Oregon, Station Cir. 75.

7c. SHIPPING-POINT LICENSE CARDS:

New license cards are being sent to all shipping-point supervisors. These cards are somewhat different from those used last year. In order to have more space, the commodities for which the license is issued are to be listed on the back of the card. The wording of the cards also has been changed, so that the same form may be used as long as the authority for this work is granted by Congress. The individual cards, however, are to be issued for only one year. Issuing officers, therefore, should complete the year (192-) at the end of the statements on front and back of card as to date of expiration of authority to the individual inspector. This change, therefore, does not affect the present practice of issuing the cards to the licensees for only one year. It only avoids the necessity for printing a new supply of blank forms each year.

8c. ARIZONA CANTALOUPE SITUATION.

In a letter of July 3, from Sacramento, E. E. Conklin, Jr., gave the following information on Arizona cantaloupes:

"Acreage of cantaloupes in Arizona, including Yuma district and the Salt River Valley, is estimated about 7,000 acres, or 1,000 more than last year. It is expected that 5,000 cars will be shipped, compared with 3,800 in 1925. Percentage of each variety is estimated as follows: Salmon Tints 60%, Pink Meats 25%, Honey Dews 12%, miscellaneous melons 3%. The Salmon Tints are Pollock 10-25's. The Pink Meats are mostly Burrell Gems, some H-B, some Edwards Perfectos, and a few Hearts of Gold. Miscellaneous melons include a few Honey Balls, Casabas, and Persian melons.

"The Edwards Perfecto, although a comparatively new cantaloupe, is quite popular. It appears much like a Pollock on the outside, is quite round and well netted, but usually shows a slight bluish or greyish cast between the netting. On cutting, this melon is very different from the Pollock, however, as it has a deep pink flesh, thick meat, and small seed cavity.

"Quality of the Arizona cantaloupes this season is very good. There are a few fields showing a slight amount of mildew but it has not spread and is not general like in the Imperial Valley, and does not appear to be a factor in the deal. The sugar tests have run very satisfactory right form the start on all varieties, and indications are that the quality will be maintained throughout the season. Last year we inspected about 125 cars, while this season we may inspect 350 to 450 cars."

9c. REVISED GRADES FOR PLUMS AND PRUNES.

With this D.L., each inspector will receive a copy of the revised U.S. Grades for Fresh Plums and Prunes.

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

TEMPORARY HEADQUARTERS OF EASTERN AND SOUTHERN SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION DEALS

State	Federal Supervisor	Products	Approx. date of Opening	Approx. date of Closing
TEXAS:	Supervising Inspector, Farmersville, Texas	Onions	June 3	July 24
ARKANSAS:	G. W. Winfrey, Van Buren, Ark.	Strawberries*	May 8	May 25*
		Cabbage*	June 5	July 1*
		Blackberries*	June 8	July 1*
		Beans*	June15	July 7*
		Potatoes*	June15	July 8*
		Onions*	June25	July 10*
		Cucumbers	June 25	July 13
		Tomatoes	June 28	July 18
		Cantaloupes	July 17	Aug.3
MARYLAND:	Robert Bier, H.W. Schneck, Pocomoke City, Md.	Berries*	May 21	June 19*
		Potatoes	June 15	July 31
GEORGIA:	O.G. Strauss, Hotel Macon, Macon, Ga.	Peaches	June 1	July 31
	J.C. Townsend, Jr., P.O. Box 465, Thomaston, Ga.	Peaches	June 11	July 25
	J.A. Marks, P.O. Box 66, Fort Valley, Ga.	Peaches	June 8	July 31
OKLAHOMA:	M. C. Gregory, State Mkt. Commission, Oklahoma City, Okla.	Potatoes*	June 1	July 10*
		Tomatoes	July 5	July 17
KANSAS:	A. S. Mason, Farm Bureau Office, Topeka, Kans.	Potatoes	July 5	July 31
IOWA:	C. D. Shirley, Pleasant Valley, Ia.	Onions	July 8	July 31
INDIANA:	J.E. Dickerson, Chamber of Commerce, Vincennes, Ind.	Vegetables	July 5	Aug. 15
DELAWARE:	F.S. Zimmerman, State Bureau of Mkts., Dover, Del.	Apples	July 5,	Aug. 7
The following station closed about date indicated:				
TEXAS:	H.T. Longino, Jacksonville, Texas	Tomatoes	Junel	July 10

*Service completed on products marked with a star.

NOTE:-SUPERVISORS SHOULD PROMPTLY SEND CORRECTIONS OF DATA IN ABOVE COLUMNS.

F.S. Kinsey temporarily at Jackson, Miss.

H.T. Longino temporarily at Jacksonville, Texas.

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Sherman spent last Friday at Raleigh, N.C., conferring with C. Commissioner W.A. Graham,Jr., and others regarding the renewal of agreement for cooperative inspection work.

Edwin Smith and Wm.E.Lewis returned to the Washington office on Tuesday of this week.

L. H. Martin, who reports the Washington market, started yesterday on an automobile trip to his former home at Duncanville, Ala. Aaron Stambaugh will handle Mr. Martin's work in his absence during the next two weeks.

Mrs. D. S. Ireland, who resigned last November, has been reinstated and is helping with the work in the Market News section.

J.C. Townsend, Jr., who was located at Marshallville, Ga., should now be addressed at P.O. Box 465, Thomaston, Ga., during the peach deal.

A. L. Thomas, radio operator and clerk in the Rochester office, has completed his vacation and can again be addressed at Room 419, Triangle Bldg., Rochester, N.Y.

W.G. Lensen arrived from Elizabeth City, N.C., on Tuesday and has now gone on two weeks' leave at Riga, Mich., after which he will substitute for J. K. Boyd, at Pittsburgh.

Congratulations are extended John W. Coleman, of the Philadelphia office on his marriage to Miss Mary Lu Hutsell, of Coalwood, W. Va. The ceremony took place in West Virginia during the July 4th holiday.

It is expected that W. H. Mosier will complete his supervision of onion inspections in Collin County, Texas, this week and go on two weeks' leave at his home in Columbus, Ohio.

J.G. Cross will proceed at the end of this week to various lettuce-shipping stations in New Jersey and endeavor to reconcile differences which are occurring between shipments and unloads of Jersey lettuce. He will also visit the New York office, returning to Washington about July 15.

C. H. Behnke, who has been substituting in St. Louis, expects to return to the Pacific Northwest next week, and will again have his headquarters in the Court House, Wenatchee, Wash., during the northwestern inspection deal.

Resignations this week include Lehron Ard, who has been working on shipment reports in Washington since November, 1923, and Miss Mary Losinsky, clerk in the Baltimore office since July, 1923.

M. C. Gregory has completed the potato inspection deal in Oklahoma and for the next few days can be addressed in care of the State Market Commission, Oklahoma City.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER VOL. 7, NO. 29
July 16, 1926.
(Contents Confidential)

1a. NORTHWEST GROWERS BUY APPLE WIPERS.

Northwestern apple growers are making strenuous efforts to avoid a recurrence of the difficulties from excessive arsenical spray residue which they experienced last year. Mr. Bailey reports that many packing houses are installing wiping machines. The only machine now on the market is the Moe fruit cleaner, made by the Moe Iron Works, Toppenish, Washington. This company is now working 24 hours a day and has already booked orders to keep them busy until Thanksgiving. The Hood River Apple Growers Association alone has ordered 100 machines, which cost about $500 each, installed.

2a. NEW BULLETIN ON MARKETING OF LETTUCE.

Dept. Bulletin 1412, "Marketing Lettuce," has just come from the press. This is a very attractive treatise, and the author is Charles W. Hauck, who resigned last December to accept a commercial position in Columbus. Copies of the bulletin can be had from the Division of Information in this Bureau.

3a. OTHER NEW PUBLICATIONS:

"Directions for Grading and Packing Illinois Peaches,"-Circular 310, University of Illinois, Agricultural College and Experiment Station, by Prof. J.W. Lloyd.

"The European Fruit Outlook," report F. S.:F-28, issued by the Foreign Marketing Section of our Bureau.

4a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR JULY 10:

Page 21- Special paragraphs on onions in the weekly review.
22- Additional Stations of Market News Service.
- Low Prices for Mississippi Tomatoes, - by J. D. Evers.
23- Big Returns for Colorado Potato Growers.
- Georgia Peach Deal in Full Swing, - by R. H. Shoemaker.
32- Almond Prospects of the Bari District, Italy.
- British Columbia Onions.

5a. EARLY POTATOES IN UTAH AND IDAHO.

The following wire was received from Walter Kingsbury, of the Salt Lake City office, on July 12: "Movement Utah early potatoes probably between 600 and 650 cars, not far from last year's shipments. Movement will start in volume Monday and should be practically over by August 10 or 15. Idaho spuds will probably start in volume same time or a few days later."

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. FORM OF MONTHLY UNLOAD REPORTS. (Reply)

Some criticism has been made by outside parties regarding the ununiformity of the Monthly Summaries of Unloads, as released by market stations and the present lack of uniformity increases to some extent the work of reviewing and editing the reports in Washington. It does not seem desirable to insist upon complete uniformity, because we believe that local needs and demands which vary considerably, should be met as far as possible. However, it does seem as though certain changes might be made, which would tend toward uniformity without destroying the individuality of the reports, and the following suggestions are offered for consideration and comment:

1. Publish all reports on bulletin-sized paper (8 by 15).
2. List first the following 16 commodities and show a grand total for the same: Apples, Cabbage, Cantaloupes, Celery, Grapes, Grapefruit, Lemons, Lettuce, Onions, Oranges, Peaches, Potatoes, Strawberries, Sweet Potatoes, Tomatoes, and Watermelons. These are the products covered in all of our unload reports for 66 cities.
3. The 16 commodities named above can be followed by all other products covered.
4. List commodities alphabetically in both groups.
5. Show the date of release on each report and issue same not later than the 10th of the following month.

An early reply is desired.

2b. PACK FIELD EQUIPMENT CAREFULLY FOR SHIPMENT.

It is highly important that field machines be properly prepared for shipment. Every movable part of a machine should be tied securely with a stout cord and the machine fastened securely in the special shipment box which has been provided. If any shipment box arrives in poor condition, it should be repaired promptly, replacing hinges, hasps or locks when necessary. New locks should be obtained from Washington in order that all locks and keys may be identical.

It has been reported that the handles of mimeograph machines frequently are broken upon arrival. This can probably be avoided either by removing the handle and tying it to the frame to prevent loss or by tying it securely to the knob near the bottom of the frame, with the open side of the drum on top. In either event, the drum should be tied securely by a cord to hold it from rotating. The inking rod handle also should be tied. If all parts are tied securely, and the machine is properly fastened in the box, no damage should be caused unless handled roughly by the transportation company. Please refer particularly to Paragraphs 120, 121 and 122 in the Administrative Supplement. Instructions for packing typewriters for shipment are given in paragraphs 118 and 119. Other paragraphs in that section of the Supplement relate to the shipment of field equipment.

3b. SEMI-ANNUAL REPORTS DUE.

Most market stations have not yet submitted their semi-annual reports of activities for the first six months of 1926. Please let us have these.

4b. PROGRESS OF GEORGIA PEACH DEAL.

In a letter of July 13, from Macon, Mr. Shoemaker advised that the movement of Hiley peaches was about completed from southern Georgia. Belles were starting to roll, and a few cars of Elbertas have already been shipped, with general movement of Elbertas by the 20th. Size of the Hileys is the best in recent years, and there has been a heavy movement of this variety. On recent days, only about 30% of the total shipments have been sold on an f.o.b. basis. When the local price falls below $1.00 per crate, most shipments are consigned. Shippers have begun to operate a distribution control plan for shipments to the larger eastern and northern markets, similar to that followed last year. An error in reporting cars billed to Montreal and Toronto in the Potomac Yards passings report for July 14 started a rumor to the effect that Canada had lifted its embargo against U. S. peaches, but the report was unfounded. Canada's embargo still prevails.

5b. POTATOES IN ORRICK SECTION, MISSOURI.

About July 1, K. S. Branch and G. D. Clark, of the Kansas City office, drove over to the Orrick section of Missouri, accompanied by Mr. Gobble, who will handle the inspection work on potatoes there. They found the crop prospects less promising than in the Kaw Valley of Kansas. Most fields showed only one to three tubers to the hill. Size was fair and quality generally good. Very little scab was found. Shipments are now fairly active.

6b. ALMOST A MILLION CARS SHIPPED.

A recent tabulation of fruit and vegetable shipments during 1925 shows that nearly a million cars of 38 products were forwarded. The net increase over 1924 was about 10,000 cars:

Total Shipments of Products Reported During 1925

	Cars		Cars		Cars
Apples	118,036	Dry Beans	17,540	Peaches	40,829
Asparagus	1,906	Eggplant	367	Pears	21,015
Cabbage	39,956	Grapefruit	19,933	Peppers	2,372
Cantaloupes	30,168	Grapes	81,865	Plums & Prunes	5,195
Carrots	3,488	Green Peas	2,707	Spinach	7,955
Cauliflower	5,288	Lemons	11,590	Strawberries	12,246
Celery	21,108	Lettuce	37,270	String Beans	5,224
Cherries	2,304	Melons, misc.	4,217	Sweet Potatoes	18,571
Cranberries	2.014	Mxd.Citrus Frt.	4,860	Tomatoes	28,233
Cucumbers	8,492	Mxd.Deciduous.	7,112	Turnips & Rutabagas	1,709
Dried Apples.	1,338	Mxd.Vegetables	32,211	Watermelons	44,184
Dried Peaches	624	Onions	30,510	White Potatoes	241,528
Dried Prunes.	7,927	Oranges	57,035	TOTAL	978,927

ADVERTISING of cranberries by the American Cranberry Exchange cost $153,639 during the year 1925-26. About 42% was spent for newspaper advertising, 34% in magazines, 16% in retail service and the remainder miscellaneously. The Exchange handled more than 314,000 barrels; average f.o.b. price was $11.29.

7b. NEWS SERVICE ON PRUNES AT WALLA WALLA, WASH.

Arrangements were completed Tuesday, when R. L. Ringer met with prune shippers at Walla Walla, Wash., for a special service on prunes for the benefit of shippers and growers in the Walla Walla-Milton-Freewater territory. The principal shippers have signed a detailed agreement providing for the preparation of a daily report, showing--

1. List of sales made (with details).
2. Prices quoted during day (general, also lowest).
3. List of cars shipped (on orders, also rollers).
4. Diversions.
5. Cancellations.
6. Rejections.
7. Allowances.
8. Consignments and to what city, including auction.

This information will be compiled and released daily in such form as not to show the identity of any particular sale, much the same as the detailed supplemental f.o.b. report is issued from Spokane on apples. It is probable also that prices on eastern markets and shipment reports will be included in the daily bulletin.

Shippers, who signed the contract, have agreed to an assessment of $1 per car to defer expenses. For the present the report will be cleared through Portland and be handled by Mr. Ringer. About the first of August, A. E. Prugh will report at Walla Walla and take over the details of the work. Whether reports actually will be issued from Walla Walla has not yet been determined. Reports up to August 10 will cover almost exclusively advance sales.

8b. CHANGE IN COLORADO LETTUCE SITUATION.

A week ago, it was expected that July shipments of Colorado lettuce would be very light, because cold weather was retarding maturity of the crop. Shipments also were being held back, on account of the weak condition of terminal markets. Now, the situation has greatly changed, according to a letter of July 10, from Wendell Calhoun, of the Denver office. Prices have advanced rapidly, and shippers are hunting for every head of lettuce which is ready for the market. A few cars were being loaded, and it is expected that movement will be considerably increased over what it would have been if prices had remained at their previous low level. Quality generally is reported good, although in the Antonito district there is considerable tipburn in consequence of a few hot days which they had there. Acreage has been so greatly increased this year and the crop is so late in getting started that some of the plantings may not mature, unless frost holds off until late this fall.

The special lettuce market report, issued from Denver, will be started on July 20, as carlot movement should be active in all districts of the State shortly thereafter. Mr. Calhoun plans to visit shipping points in the San Luis Valley this Saturday and Sunday, and arrange for f.o.b. reports.

E. W. STILLWELL,
Specialist in Market News.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. LIMITED USE OF SUCH PHRASES AS "APPLICANT STATES"

Because of serious complaints from a number of sources that such statements as "Applicant states grapes unloaded from car PFE 8976" were a very serious inconvenience to shippers, who had reason to believe that lots so described were frequently not from the car given, it has been decided to omit these statements from grape certificates issued on lots which were not in the cars in which they arrived or still in the hands of the carrier, auction company or other public agency when the inspection was made.

The class of trade, which handles grapes for a short time each season, makes it particularly desirable to safeguard our certificates in this respect, and it will be to the interest of both shipper and receiver to have the identity of such lots established by affidavit ratner than by a quotation of the statement of an interested party on a certificate which is accepted by many uninformed members of the trade as the equivalent of an affidavit.

The same procedure should be followed in certifying other products which have been removed from the car, whenever there is the slightest doubt in the mind of the inspector as to their identity. This will apply particularly to products which do not bear distinguishing marks or brands.

Descriptions of lots of this kind in the store or warehouse of an applicant should be particularly detailed in respect to brands and marks, which may be of value in showing the shipper that the product described was that which came from the car with which it is connected by affidavit of the applicant.

2c. NEW BULLETINS:

Under separate cover there are being distributed Farmers' Bulletin No. 1468 on "Muskmelons" and Department Bulletin No. 1415 on "Marketing Western Boxed Apples " and Department Bulletin No. 1416 on "Marketing Barreled Apples". These valuable bulletins should be given careful study by each inspector.

There is also being sent to each office a few copies of Reprint 253 from Service and Regulatory Announcements No.21, Bureau of Chemistry, covering "The Labeling of Various Packages of Fruitsand Vegetables With the Quantity of Contents." These also should be studied carefully by each inspector, so that he may be able to answer the many questions asked by shippers, in this connection. These reprints can be distributed by the Inspector in Charge to any persons desiring the information. Additional copies can be obtained, by the usual request, from the Division of Publications.

3c. CIRCULAR ON EASTERN GRAPES.

The inspection circular on Eastern Grapes is being distributed this week to all inspectors.

ABOUT 75% OF THE CERTIFIED SEED POTATOES produced in Nebraska last season were marketed through the Nebraska Certified Potato Growers, Cooperative, Alliance, Nebr. Sales for the last business year amounted to $193,413.

4c. NEW SUPERVISION ARRANGEMENT IN THE NORTHWEST.

Under new arrangements with the States of Washington and Oregon, F. E. Bailey has been designated as in charge of the Federal supervision of the Washington work in all districts. C. H. Behnke, will act as his assistant, being stationed in Wenatchee after August 1. Mr. Bailey's headquarters will be changed from Spokane to Yakima.

W. L. Close has been designated as Federal Supervisor for the State of Oregon and will have headquarters for the present with C.A. Cole, Secretary, Oregon State Board of Horticulture, 306 Fitzpatrick Building, Portland,

Cars are being provided in both States for the use of the supervisors and it is expected that the efficiency of the work will be increased as a result of the new arrangements, which became effective July 15.

5c. LICENSEES' RECORD CARDS.

The attention of all shipping-point supervisors is called to the necessity for sending in promptly the names of men to whom licenses have been issued and the numbers of licenses. At the same time Licensees' Personnel Record Cards, FPI -28, should be forwarded to this office. Service Record, F.P. I. -29, need not be sent in until the close of the deal on which the licensee is working.

Information is frequently requested regarding licensees, and inquiries as to their qualifications and ability are often received from other States. All this information can be furnished promptly and accurately, if records are sent to this office as quickly as possible after the license is issued.

6c. MATURITY TESTS FOR NORTHWESTERN PRUNES.

With reference to the Oregon bulletin on Italian Prunes, mentioned in Par. 6c of the last Division Letter, F. E. Bailey has written as follows:

"Unless there is reason for doing otherwise, we will use the recommendation in paragraph 13 of the summary of this bulletin as a tentative basis for our maturity determination on Italian prunes this season, at least to the extent of considering prunes mature for shipment when they test 15 pounds, or about that, by Hartman's instrument.

"We will use the 5/16 inch plunger, where Hartman used the 6/16 or 3/8 inch plunger. Therefore, stock which tests 15 pounds for Hartman would test about 12.5 pounds for us at the same stage of maturity."

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

CORRECTION:

After page 401 of this D.L. had been mimeographed, an error was discovered in some of the shipment figures. Please change the total for Miscellaneous Melons from 4,217 to 3,654. Also change the total for Onions from 30,510 to 31,073 cars. This leaves the grand total the same.

TEMPORARY HEADQUARTERS OF EASTERN AND SOUTHERN SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION DEALS

State	Federal Supervisor	Products	Approx. date of Opening	Closing
TEXAS:	H. T. Longino, Sulphur Springs, Texas.	Peaches	July 12	July 31
ARKANSAS:	G. W. Winfrey, Van Buren, Ark.	Strawberries*	May 8	May 25*
		Cabbage*	June 5	July 1*
		Blackberries*	June 8	July 1*
		Beans*	June 15	July 7*
		Potatoes*	June 15	July 8*
		Onions*	June 25	July 10*
		Cucumbers*	June 25	July 13*
		Tomatoes	June 28	July 18
		Cantaloupes	July 17	Aug. 3
MARYLAND:	Robert Bier, Pocomoke City, Md.	Berries*	May 21	June 19*
		Potatoes	June 15	July 31
GEORGIA:	O. G. Strauss, Hotel Macon, Macon, Ga.	Peaches	June 1	Aug. 7
	J. C. Townsend, Jr., P. O. Box 465, Thomaston, Ga.	Peaches	June 11	July 25
	J. A. Marks, P.O. Box 66, Fort Valley, Ga.	Peaches	June 8	July 31
OKLAHOMA:	M. C. Gregory, State Mkt. Commission, Oklahoma City, Okla.	Potatoes*	June 1	July 10*
		Tomatoes	July 5	July 17
KANSAS:	A. S. Mason, Farm Bureau Office, Topeka, Kans.	Potatoes	July 5	July 31
IOWA:	C. D. Shirley, Pleasant Valley, Ia.	Onions	July 8	July 31
INDIANA:	J. E. Dickerson, County Agent's Office, Vincennes, Ind.	Apples	July 12	Oct. 15
		Tomatoes	July 15	Aug. 10
		Cantaloupes	July 25	Aug. 25
		Peaches	Aug. 5	Sept. 15
DELAWARE:	F. S. Zimmerman, State Bureau of Mkts. Dover, Del.	Apples	July 5	Aug. 7

The following station closed about date indicated:

TEXAS:	W. H. Mosier, Farmersville, Texas	Onions	June 3	July 14

*Service completed on products marked with a star.

Markets	JUNE Total Inspections	Total Same Month, 1925	Inspections for Carriers	Declined for Lack of Time	Total Fees
RECEIVING-POINT INSPECTIONS DURING JUNE, 1926:					
Atlanta.....	55	39	9	1	$ 230.00
Baltimore.....	51	43	8	0	189.50
Boston.....	361	297	264	6	1,487.50
Buffalo.....	123	97	68	0	476.50
Chicago.....	240	335	9	2	1,201.50
Cincinnati.....	55	60	0	0	243.00
Cleveland.....	256	235	210	0	1,052.50
Columbus.....	54	31	0	0	216.50
Denver.....	15	24	0	0	65.50
Detroit.....	336	209	153	0	1,323.50
Harrisburg.....	3	2	3	0	15.60
Indianapolis...	30	27	2	0	122.00
Jacksonville...	29	-	0	0	114.50
Kansas City....	54	59	12	0	214.00
Los Angeles....	13	1	0	0	58.00
Memphis.....	59	55	47	0	246.00
Milwaukee.....	82	49	63	0	320.50
Minneapolis....	46	46	0	1	186.00
New Haven.....	62	49	7	0	268.00
New Orleans....	63	72	19	1	234.00
New York.....	841	771	552	0	3,408.20
Norfolk.....	20	14	6	0	85.00
Omaha.....	31	36	6	0	123.00
Philadelphia...	131	203	67	0	525.00
Pittsburgh.....	248	265	151	6	1,013.50
Portland.....	26	35	1	0	103.00
St. Louis.....	123	96	63	0	502.50
Salt Lake City.	3	5	1	0	12.00
San Diego.....	1	1	1	0	5.00
San Francisco..	6	1	4	0	22.50
Washington.....	21	20	0	0	85.50
Wichita.....	8	-	4	0	32.00
Wilkes-Barre...	45	25	28	1	194.50
TOTAL.....	3,491	3,202	1,758	18	$14,376.30

INSPECTIONS FOR THE NAVY AND MARINE CORPS DURING JUNE, 1926.

SYMBOLS N – NAVY M – MARINE CORPS	ALL FIGURES IN THESE COLUMNS REPRESENT POUNDS				
	Fruits and Vegetables PASSED	Fruits and Vegetables REJECTED	TOTAL QUANTITY INSPECTED	"Cuts" Made to comply with Specifications	Items Billed Short-weight
STATIONS	N M	N M	N M	N M	N M
BOSTON	135671 4692	1583 0	137254 4692	116 0	211 0
NEW YORK	183685 90047	5227 2900	188912 92947	270 0	0 0
NORFOLK	No supply ships loaded at Norfolk during month of June				
PHILADELPHIA	406734 32255	12350 570	419084 32825	1977 371	0 0
SAN DIEGO	595230 72645	24350 647	619580 73292	5905 556	0 0
SAN FRANCISCO	1050246 0	125000 0	1175246 0	350 0	0 0
SAN PEDRO	344441 0	7293 0	351734 0	1657 0	0 0
VALLEJO	147707 36575	6682 368	154389 36943	79 8	0 0
WASHINGTON	71969 0	788 0	72757 0	253 0	0 0
TOTALS	2935683 236214	183273 4485	3118956 240699	10607 927	211 0
	INSPECTIONS MADE FOR U.S. SHIPPING BOARD				
NEW YORK	33092	255	33347	0	0
NORFOLK	34350	356	34706	0	0
TOTALS	67442	611	68053	0	0

In addition to the above, the New York office inspected the following:

	Vegetables	Fruit	Rejections
United States Lines	786,856	145,747	31,492
United American Lines	– –	57,324	934
Munson Line	45,513	17,358	934
American France Line	8,215	2,048	20
American Diamond Line	5,756	2,085	20
American Merchant Line	16,117	7,062	902
American West and South African Line	9,160	2,070	790
Total	871,617	233,694	35,092

The San Pedro office also inspected the following for the Navy:

	Passed	Rejected
Bread	3,206	0
Butter	11,032	1,200
Cheese	2,806	0
Total	17,044	1,200

The Vallejo office also inspected and passed the following for the Navy:

Bread 27,640

STANDARDIZATION AND RESEARCH

1d. NORTHWESTERN PRODUCTS BEING STUDIED.

B. E. Shaffer wrote from Walla Walla, Wash., that he has studied the handling and shipping of sweet cherries and onions to ascertain whether any changes should be made in the grades, to make them more applicable to Washington and Oregon conditions. He is also studying raspberries, loganberries and apricots, in order to secure information for writing grades on these products. On July 5 onions were just beginning to move from Walla Walla. Many fields were being pulled before the onions had reached maturity and root rot was rather common. Big, thick, watery necks also were common and many onions were flat, three-sided or elongated, because of crowding in the rows. Because of the extremely immature condition of the stock, heavy movement did not begin before this (present) week.

2d. TRUCK MOVEMENT ON EASTERN SHORE.

G. A. DeHaven has just returned from Pocomoke City, Md., and other points on the Eastern Shore peninsula, where he made a survey of the shipments of berries and other products by truck. He found that, up to the last week of June, almost 258,000 crates (32 quarts each) of strawberries had moved by truck to eastern markets. This is equivalent to more than 1,000 cars.

3d. REVISED GRADES FOR BARRELED APPLES.

A few days ago, each inspector was sent a copy of the revised U.S. grades for barreled apples. If anyone failed to receive his copy, please advise the Washington office.

H. W. SAMSON,
Specialist in Standardization.

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Sherman is spending the last half of this week at shipping points on the Eastern Shore of Maryland and Virginia, in order to see personally the movement and inspection of potatoes. He accompanied S. B. Shaw, Chief Inspector for Maryland, on this trip.

Wm. E. Lewis spent Monday on the Baltimore market, checking up the application of the U.S. grades for various fruits and vegetables.

After two months in the field, making investigations regarding standard containers, Robert W. Davis returned to the Washington office on Thursday of this week. He expects to go to Chicago on Sunday to observe a series of construction tests on bushel baskets, by the Freight Container Bureau of the American Railway Association. He may be in Chicago a week.

OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

R. N. Balster, of the Chicago staff, has gone to Omaha, where he will handle the local inspections during the next few months, while V. V. Westgate supervises the shipping-point inspection work on Nebraska potatoes.

H. W. Schneck has completed his period of service in connection with the market news and inspection work at Pocomoke City and vicinity, and has now gone to New York City, where he will assist with inspections.

W. J. Bertush has again gone from Chicago to Pittsburgh, to help with the rush of inspections in that market.

From now until the close of the grape deal, E. E. Conklin, Jr., should be addressed in care of State Dept. of Agriculture, Sequoia Hotel, Fresno, Calif. Other California cooperative men who have gone to Fresno are Sam Preston and H. W. Peterson. V. T. Harmon is now located at Turlock, Calif.

The bankers' organization at Macon, Ga., gave a banquet on July 7 in honor of the peach buyers, commission merchants and brokers, who make their headquarters in Georgia during the peach deal. Among the guests at this enjoyable event were O. G. Strauss and wife; R. H. Shoemaker, and V.D. Callanan. Mr. Callanan formerly was in charge of our New York market news office. More than 150 persons attended the banquet, including many ladies.

W. H. Mosier. left Farmersville, Texas, on Wednesday night and arrived in Cincinnati this morning. He has gone on leave at Columbus, Ohio.

From now until about August 1, C. H. Behnke is on leave and can be addressed at Box 174, Sunnyside, Wash. His headquarters after August 1 will be at the Court House, Wenatchee, Wash.

B. E. Yaden, a former member of our F. & V. staff, is now the manager of the new Chicago office of Sgobel & Day, New York City firm.

Friends of Manley Stockton, who was a member of our Division some years ago, will be interested to learn that he was married last Saturday to Miss Gladys Huie, at Atlanta, Ga. They will be at home in DeLand, Fla., after the 24th of July.

A field station of the Market News Service will not be operated at Turlock, Calif., this season, but cantaloupe growers and shippers in that section will be served with daily market reports from the San Francisco office. The crop has been greatly reduced by aphis injury.

Until recently, our Division had its own mimeograph room, where the Division Letter, certain summaries of field deals and other miscellaneous matter was mimeographed. Such work for various divisions of the Bureau has now been consolidated in one room in the building adjoining the Bieber Bldg., and our operator, Benjamin Boyce, is located in the new quarters.

OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

Communications for J. E. Dickerson should be addressed to the County Agent's Office, Vincennes, Ind., instead of to the Chamber of Commerce.

F. S. Kinsey has gone to Jacksonville, Fla., to handle inspections of express shipments and other local work in the temporary absence of R. H. Von Glahn, who is taking training in Chicago. Mr. Kinsey's address is 204 St. James Bldg., Jacksonville.

Lonnie D. Byrd, whose appointment was announced in the D. L. for June 25, was unable to accept the appointment at this time and therefore is not a member of the inspectors' training class in Chicago.

"Speedkode," the new telegraphic code for the produce trade, devised by E. M. Seifert, Jr., and O. W. Schleussner, is being given much publicity in the trade papers. Messrs. Seifert and Schleussner both were members of our F. & V. Division during its earlier history and are now located in Los Angeles.

Effective next Monday and until August 1, J. B. Wright can be reached at the San Francisco office. He will be substituting for C. J. Hansen, while the latter is on leave at Medford, Oregon. O. W. Holmes will handle the market news reports.

J. D. Evers is now substituting for H. S. Stiles, in Boston. Mr. Stiles is taking his annual vacation.

J. W. Strowbridge, of Mr. Samson's section, has gone to his home at Dundee, N. Y., for a couple of weeks' leave. G. B. Fiske is on a 10 days' vacation at his former home in Massachusetts.

H. T. Longino finished the East Texas tomato inspection deal with a record of 1,300 cars. He has now located at Sulphur Springs, Texas, where he will supervise peach inspections during the next few weeks.

On closing the Phoenix, Arizona, field station next Tuesday, it is expected that A. E. Prugh will go to the Los Angeles office for a few days.

Among members of the New York inspection staff, the following begin their leave next week: E. G. Batsford, at 86 Oxford Road, New Hartford, N.Y., and Bolling Hall, at Waynesville, N.C.

NOTE the following in connection with temporary field stations of the Market News Service (see page 393 of last D.L.): Peach reports at Macon may be continued until July 31. Valdosta will close on July 19 and Macon watermelon station will open about July 21, with R. L. Sutton in charge. Phoenix closes on July 20 instead of 24. Fresno grape service will start about July 26, with C. E. Schultz in charge, and the field station at Grand Junction will open around August 2.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER VOL. 7, NO. 30
July 23, 1926.
(Contents Confidential)

1a. MARKING OF AUTOMOBILES.

If any branch office has an automobile belonging to this Division, which is not marked with the name of the Department and of the Bureau, kindly advise this office so that decalcomania transfers can be forwarded for marking it as required by Memorandum No. 553, published in The Official Record of July 14. This process is relatively inexpensive and will insure uniformity in the marking of all Bureau automobiles hereafter. As we are required to furnish a report, not later than September 15, that all automobiles for which we are accountable have been properly marked, your immediate reply to this matter would be appreciated.

2a. TEXAS WATERMELON SITUATION.

Recent letters from Mr. Googe, of the Fort Worth office, advised that most of the melon shipments from Texas were originating in the Bellville district(S.E. Texas) around the middle of July. Quality is very good this year because of sufficient rainfall and generally favorable growing weather. Shippers have adopted the practice of sending cars to many of the small cities and towns in the West, to offset the weak condition of the large terminal markets. The exception to this rule is in the case of Kansas City and Omaha, where a large number of Texas cars are kept on track available for sale or diversion. Many local dealers are fearful that they may have to pay the freight charges on cars they are rolling. Some growers claim that present prices will not even pay the cost of loading a car, which is estimated around $50. Quite a number of cash buyers have left for other parts,and many melons may not be harvested. Movement from the Weatherford district and northeastern Texas is expected to get well under way by Monday, July 26. A big deal is expected in that region.

3a. RAILROAD BUILDS A PACKING SHED.

With reference to Par. 1a, D. L. for July 2, M. A. Russell, of the Chicago office, advises that, about a year ago, the Mobile and Ohio Railroad built a packing shed along its side track at Jonesboro, in southern Illinois, for the convenience of cooperative associations or other firms, who wish to load carlots of fruits or vegetables at that point. He understands that one or two additional packing sheds are to be erected by this railroad.

4a. BULLETIN ON CALIFORNIA FRUITS.

"Deciduous Fruit Growing in California" is the title of a pamphlet written by W. G. Killingsworth , of the State Dept. of Agriculture, Sacramento, and published by the Californians, Inc., whose headquarters are in San Francisco. This 24-page bulletin contains a lot of valuable information. (P. 411)

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. BE SURE MS-31 AND MS-32 REPORTS ARE ACCURATE.

It is important that the data on the daily report forms, MS-31 and MS-32 be complete and accurate, especially as to the time of beginning and ending reports on a particular product. These daily sheets are used as a basis for compiling the Annual Report of the Division and of the Bureau. The semi-annual reports from market stations cannot always be used for this purpose. It is observed that there are many discrepancies between the daily sheets, MS-31, and the semi-snnual reports from market stations. Here is a sample of discrepancies relating to one office, on reports issued during 1925:

	DATA IN SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT.		DATA ON DAILY MS-31 SHEETS.	
Products	Began	Stopped	Began	Stopped
I	July 1	Sept. 4	June 16	Sept. 4
II	July 8	Nov. 27	July 8	Oct. 14
III	July 20	Sept.30	July 20	Nov. 27
IV	Nov. 4		none shown	
V	July 1		Apr. 13	

Another matter to which attention should be given at market stations is the column in which figures are entered. Figures relating to complete commodity reports always should appear in the left-hand columns. Only "special" reports are to be credited in the right-hand column of Form MS-31.

A few stations last year, especially field stations, did not submit a report sheet for every day. Sometimes there were lapses of a week or more.

2b. FURTHER NEWS ON NEW JERSEY POTATOES.

In a special article, which will be published in "Crops and Markets," E. R. Biddle states that the New Jersey growers and shippers are ready to begin marketing their potatoes but feel that Virginia competition is still too strong and that they must wait until the Eastern Shore cleans up. Acreage is lighter but production is estimated considerably heavier than last year. The southern part of the State expects to ship 2,000 to 2,500 cars, as against 535 last season. In 1925, the central district shipped 2,745 cars, and yields this year are expected to run at least a third heavier than those of 1925. It is hoped to be able to send considerable quantities to southern markets, after the Virginia crop is finished. Quality of the Jersey potatoes should be generally good, and some of the leading brands will be inspected at shipping point.

3b. EARLY POTATO OUTLOOK IN MINNESOTA.

R. M. Ferguson, of the Minneapolis office, included the following information in a letter of July 14: Southeastern Minnesota counties are expected to average approximately 80% of a normal crop of early potatoes. The stand and set are generally good. Stock which has appeared on the market has been of good size and fairly smooth. The first homegrowns were selling to Minneapolis retailers week before last at $1.75-$2.00 per bushel, but the price dropped to $1.25 under the heavier supply. Carlots were expected to begin moving about July 25, if not sooner. Most of the first diggings were being hauled to the Twin Cities.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

Stations	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably will close
POCOMOKE CITY, MD.** Peninsula Bldg.	878	H. E. Rutland	Berries* Potatoes	May 21 June 14	June 18* July 31
MACON, GA.** 418 Bibb Bldg.	833	R. H. Shoemaker	Peaches	June 7	August 5
ABERDEEN, N. C.**	935	R. H. Lamb	Peaches	July 12	Aug. 7
MACON, GA.** 418 Bibb Bldg.	875	R. L. Sutton	W-melons	July 21	Aug. 21
The following stations probably will open on date indicated:					
FRESNO, CALIF.**	919	C. E. Schultz	Grapes	Aug. 2	Nov. 10
GRAND JUNCTION, COLO.**	846	J. A. Hunter	Potatoes	Aug. 2	Oct. 30
			Pears	Aug. 5	Sept. 30
			Peaches	Aug. 16	Sept. 10
			Onions	Sept. 7	Oct. 30
			Apples	Sept. 13	Oct. 30
The following stations closed on dates indicated:					
VALDOSTA, GA.** Valdes Hotel	832	R. L. Sutton	W-melons	June 29	July 17
PHOENIX, ARIZ. 15 Arizona Fire Bldg.	815	A. E. Prugh	Cants.	June 29	July 19

** State cooperating. *Reports discontinued.

W. H. Mosier on leave at Columbus.
C. E. Schultz at Los Angeles office.
J. D. Evers at Boston office.
W. F. Cox at Kansas City office.
W. G. Lensen on leave in Mich.
A. E. Prugh at Portland office.

4b. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR JULY 17:

Page 37 - Special paragraphs on potatoes in the Weekly Review.
39 - Eastern Shore Potato Movement, - by H. E. Rutland.
- Developments in Texas Tomato Deal, - by W. F. Cox.
40 - Good Cantaloupe Deal in Arizona, - A. E. Prugh.
- Imperial Valley Cantaloupes Damaged by Mildew, - by C.E.Schultz.
- Big Watermelon Season in Imperial Valley, - by A. E. Prugh.
48 - Northern Hemisphere Fruit Prospects.

(This issue of "Crops and Markets" contains an exceptionally good array of field stories; keep up the good work, men. - Editor)

E. W. STILLWELL, Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY HEADQUARTERS OF SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION DEALS

State	Federal Supervisor	Products	Approx. date of Opening	Approx. date of Closing
TEXAS:	H. T. Longino, Sulphur Springs, Texas.	Peaches	July 12	July 31
ARKANSAS:	G. W. Winfrey, Van Buren, Ark.	Strawberries*	May 8	May 25*
		Cabbage*	June 5	July 1*
		Blackberries*	June 8	July 1*
		Beans*	June 15	July 7*
		Potatoes*	June 15	July 8*
		Onions*	June 25	July 10*
		Cucumbers*	June 25	July 13*
		Tomatoes	June 28	July 24
		Cantaloupes	July 17	Aug. 3
MARYLAND:	Robert Bier, Pocomoke City, Md.	Berries*	May 21	June 19*
		Potatoes	June 15	July 31
GEORGIA:	O. G. Strauss, Hotel Macon, Macon, Ga.	Peaches	June 1	Aug. 7
	J. C. Townsend, Jr., P. O. Box 465, Thomaston, Ga.	Peaches	June 11	July 25
OKLAHOMA:	M. C. Gregory, State Mkt. Commission, Oklahoma City, Okla.	Potatoes*	June 1	July 10*
		Tomatoes*	July 5	July 17*
		Cantaloupes	July 19	July 31
		Watermelons	Aug. 2	Aug. 14
KANSAS:	A. S. Mason, Farm Bureau Office, Topeka, Kans.	Potatoes	July 5	July 31
IOWA:	C. D. Shirley, Pleasant Valley, Ia.	Onions	July 8	July 31
INDIANA:	J. E. Dickerson, County Agent's Office, Vincennes, Ind.	Apples	July 12	Oct. 15
		Tomatoes	July 15	Aug. 10
		Cantaloupes	July 25	Aug. 25
		Peaches	Aug. 5	Sept. 15
DELAWARE:	F. S. Zimmerman, State Bureau of Mkts., Dover, Del.	Apples	July 5	Aug. 7
The following station will open about date indicated.				
COLORADO:	N. D. Sanborn, Rocky Ford, Colo.	Cantaloupes	Aug. 9	Sept. 30

*Service completed on products marked with a star.

J. A. Marks gone to Pittsburgh office.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. IMPORTANT MEETING OF HORTICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

A joint meeting of the Maryland State Horticultural Society and the Peninsula Horticultural Society will be held next Friday, July 30, at Berlin, Md., with an evening session at Ocean City. The list of speakers includes Governor Ritchie, of Maryland; a Congressman, several State officials and prominent growers. Mr. Robb is on the evening program for a talk on the subject: "The Value of Inspection as a Means of Raising the Standards of Fruits and Vegetables." In connection with this meeting, a tour of inspection will be made through orchards and packing houses in the vicinity and to experimental plots in some of the orchards, where the State Agricultural Experiment Station is conducting work. It is expected that the gathering will be largely attended.

2c. INSPECTION PAYS LOUISIANA POTATO GROWERS.

Louisiana potatoes, that had been inspected by the Federal-State Inspection Service this season, sold for cash on track at an advance of as much as $125 per car over what was being offered for the same stock before inspection, reports C. R. Newton, Supervising Inspector. The average cost of this service to the grower over the entire State was $5.12 per car. About 435 cars were inspected. Overhead costs for this service, such as supervision, traveling expenses incident to supervision, telephone and telegraph and certain clerical costs, are absorbed by the Agricultural Extension Service for Louisiana. This is not the custom in most States, but the Louisiana Service regards shipping-point inspection as very important educational work and carries the expense on that theory.

3c. ONION INSPECTIONS TO CONTINUE IN NORTH TEXAS.

Growers in Collin County and nearby sections of Texas were so anxious to have a continuation of the onion inspection service, after Mr. Mosier left Farmersville, that arrangements were made to have two licensees carry on the work, under supervision of H. T. Longino, who is located at Sulphur Springs. This is their first experience in marketing Bermuda onions on a large scale, and they desire continued assistance in grading and packing the stock to best advantage. Rains and low prices have restricted the carlot movement. Large quantities of Bermuda onions remain to be shipped and the Prizetakers will be ready for market within a week or two, so that inspection service may be prolonged until the middle of August. Only a few f.o.b. sales were being made around Farmersville at $1 per crate for No.1 yellows and wax onions. Some shippers were getting better returns on their consignments. Demand is best in the southeastern and southwestern markets, particularly the smaller cities.

4c. BOOKLET CONTAINING WASHINGTON STATE STANDARDS.

With this D. L., each inspector will receive a copy of the booklet, entitled: "Washington Standards for Grading, Packing, Certification and Packages of Apples, Pears and Other Fruits, Season 1926." This was issued by the Division of Horticulture, State Dept., of Agriculture.

5c. REPORTING DECAY IN POTATOES:

During the past two weeks, several inspectors in receiving markets have reported lots of potatoes which showed considerable variation in decay in individual packages but which averaged within the 2% tolerance. Several inquiries have been made as to how such cases should be handled.

It is believed consistent with other practices in making grade statements to report such lots up to grade, if the average of decay is not over 2% and no package shows more than 4% or double the tolerance. If some packages show more than 4% they should be reported separately, statement being made to the effect that most barrels grade U. S. No.1; a few barrels show soft rot decay in excess of tolerance.

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Sherman yesterday attended a meeting of the Berkeley County Farm Bureau, held in a picnic grove at Martinsburg, W. Va. He gave a general talk on the marketing of fruits and vegetables.

R. M. Peterson, of the Minneapolis office, has been reported ill. Mr. Ferguson is carrying on the market news and inspection work in his absence. (P.S.-Mr. Peterson reported on duty again this Friday morning.)

Mr. Samson went to New York City on Monday evening and may also go to Providence, R. I., to confer with growers, shippers, State officials and representatives of our F. & V. Division regarding the revised grades for barreled apples. New England apple producers and State officials have become especially interested in grades for this fruit.

J. A. Marks has been transferred from Fort Valley, Ga., to the Pittsburgh office and W. J. Bertush from Pittsburgh to New York City. There is a rush of inspection work in northern and eastern markets, on account of requests by the F.G.E. Company for inspection of all cars of a certain series which have a different bunker capacity than their other cars.

Through arrangements made with George B. Terrell, Commissioner of Agriculture in Texas, J. A. Hunter will devote all of his time for a few weeks to the Federal Market News Service. He reported in Fort Worth this week and is handling the work there while W. D. Googe is on vacation. Later, Mr. Hunter probably will operate the field station at Grand Junction, Colo.

W. F. Cox, who was assisting in Fort Worth, goes to Kansas City. After taking his own leave and possibly substituting for G. D. Clark, he will be given additional field assignments. Mr. Cox should be addressed at the Kansas City office until further notice.

A field station on potatoes may not be operated at Caldwell, Idaho, this year, because of the unwillingness of growers and shippers to share the expense of this service and because of the relatively light tonnage expected. Any service which may be given there will at least be delayed.

OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

A. E. Prugh went to Los Angeles for a day or two after closing the Phoenix, Arizona, field station, and has now proceeded to Portland, Oregon, where he will spend about a week. A brief supplementary report of f.o.b. sales and quotations on prunes from the Walla Walla-Milton-Freewater district is being issued by the Portland office, and, after about August 10, a regular market report, covering eastern auctions and shipments, will be issued. Mr. Prugh will go to Walla Walla about August 1 for the purpose of checking dealers' reports of sales and issuing the supplementary report.

R. L. Ringer, of Portland, expects to be on vacation from July 27 to August 14 at Ranier National Park. During his absence, the local market will not be reported, but the usual mimeographed reports will be issued to carry the shipment information and outside markets on certain products.

Other members of the technical staff, about whose vacations the editor has learned, include the following: J. K. Boyd, of Pittsburgh, begins his leave on July 30, the market reporting work in that city to be handled by W.G. Lensen. H. A. Harris has been on vacation, and C. E. Schultz has been taking care of the market reports in Los Angeles. W. T. Pentzer, of the Chicago office, expects to proceed next Monday to Pasadena, Calif., where he will be on leave until August 7.

W. H. Mosier will report at Cincinnati next Tuesday, and assume permanent charge of the market news work in that city. Mr. Scott will proceed to Philadelphia about August 1 to relieve Mr. Biddle, while the latter is on vacation, and to take his own leave.

Since R. L. Sutton has moved from Valdosta to Macon, Ga., to continue the market reports on watermelons, R. H. Shoemaker, who is issuing peach reports, has arranged to move with Mr. Sutton to rooms 418-420 Bibb Bldg., Macon. Mr. Shoemaker formerly occupied Room 620.

G. A. DeHaven returned to Pocomoke City, Md., on Monday evening, for the purpose of gathering more data on shipments of produce by truck.

The Farm and Orchard Magazine section of the Los Angeles Sunday Times, dated July 11, published as its leading article a resumé of the carlot shipment information contained in the special shipment summary for 1925, released by the Los Angeles office a few weeks ago and mentioned in Par. 4a, D.L. for July 2. The article is entitled: "State's Shipping Supremacy Is Attested."

At the noon meeting of the Phoenix Kiwanis Club, on Tuesday, July 13, A. E. Prugh gave an informal talk regarding the Salt River Valley cantaloupe deal. Figuring a crop of possibly 4,000 carloads at an average of $1.75 per standard crate, he estimated that this year's crop was worth about $2,800,000 to the State.

C. R. Newton advises that he has changed his residence address to 1029 North Boulevard, Baton Rouge, La.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER VOL. 7. NO. 31
July 30, 1926.
(Contents Confidential)

1a. CHANGE IN ACTUAL EXPENSE ALLOWANCE.

All station letters of authorization were issued for the current fiscal year on the basis of actual expenses while absent from official headquarters. The legal limit heretofore has been $5.00 per day. The legal limit is now $7.00 per day. The Secretary has made each Bureau responsible for fixing reasonable limits within the amount permitted by law. Members of the force of this Division will be expected to keep their actual expenses within $6.00 per day. If this is done, it will save the necessity of amending the present letters of authorization. The necessity for any expenditure in excess of $6.00 per day should be clearly shown.

WELLS A. SHERMAN,
Specialist in Charge,
Fruit and Vegetable Division.

2a. FORECAST OF POTATO SHIPMENTS STOPPED.

The last early-potato shipment forecast for the season was issued yesterday, July 29. Resumption of this report next season will depend upon whether the service has apparently been of definite help to potato growers, shippers, and receivers. Few comments of any kind have yet been received. Please forward to Washington any criticism, either favorable or unfavorable, which may come to your attention.

3a. SAN LUIS VALLEY CROP CONDITIONS:

Following his visit to shipping points in the San Luis Valley of southern Colorado on July 17 and 18, Wendell Calhoun, of the Denver office, reported that lettuce movement was getting under way rather actively and that the quality was expected to improve shortly. Many of the early shipments contained stock of inferior quality on account of tip-burn and soft leafy heads. The district inspector says that there is a much stronger sentiment toward packing better-quality vegetables and he expects to get twice as many inspections on lettuce and mixed vegetables as last year, when the total was a few over 500 cars. There are about 35 platforms in operation in the Valley, representing 15 companies.

Potatoes are in fairly good condition, though not doing so well as last year, when they had an usually fine crop. Potato acreage is estimated at 9% to 10% increase over 1925. Considerable increase is in early Cobblers, which should start moving about August 10, - total output of this early stock being about 100 cars.

4a. ITALIAN ALMOND INDUSTRY.

The Foreign Marketing Section has just released a special mimeographed report designated F. S.:AL-17 and entitled "Italian Almond Industry."

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. COLORADO PRODUCTS MOVING.

Having just returned to Denver from the Western Slope, E. F. McKune advises that peaches are expected to be moving in car-lots from the western part of Colorado by August 15, and potatoes and onions also should be fairly heavy by that time. First cantaloupe shipments are expected from the Rocky Ford district about August 10 or 12.

2b. MARYLAND CANTALOUPES:

H. E. Rutland wired yesterday from Pocomoke City that Maryland cantaloupes are beginning to move and should increase rapidly after August 3.

3b. NORTHWESTERN PRUNE SITUATION.

A radiogram, received from R. L. Ringer yesterday morning, advised that prunes in the Walla Walla - Milton - Freewater district are being tested daily to determine sugar content sufficient for shipping purposes, and August 2 is now definitely set as date for beginning of movement. Local estimates indicate probably 1,100 cars available for market.

4b. PRESS RELEASE ON PURITY OF AMERICAN HONEY.

A two-page mimeographed article, headed:"Foreign Purchasers of United States Honey are Guaranteed an Unadulterated Product," was mailed to all market news offices which report honey prices to Washington. This article was prepared by the Bee Culture Laboratory of the Bureau of Entomology to refute charges which have been broadcast in German newspapers that American honey is often adulterated, and that it is often shipped in tar barrels, kerosene cans and other undesirable containers.

5b. ADDITIONAL SUMMARIES AVAILABLE:

Additional summaries of field deals, recently distributed, include:-

-CALIFORNIA GRAPE DEAL, Season of 1925, by C. E. Schultz; copies are available from the Washington office.

- CALIFORNIA PEAR DEAL, Season of 1925, by C. J. Hansen and O. W. Holmes; copies available from the San Francisco office, Room 1, Ferry Bldg.

6b. REVIEW OF ARIZONA CANTALOUPE DEAL.

On the last day of operation of the Phoenix, Arizona, field station - July 19 - a brief review of the season for cantaloupes was released in mimeographed form by A. E. Prugh. Parts of this review were published in Crops and Markets for July 17, page 40, and a CORRECTION should be made in that article as printed: In the 20th line, the word "Boston" should be changed to "Kansas City," making the phrase read: "$1.30 to Kansas City."

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

Stations	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably will close
POCOMOKE CITY, MD.** Peninsula Bldg.	878	H. E. Rutland	Berries*	May 21	June 18*
			Potatoes	June 14	July 31
MACON, GA.**	833	R. L. Sutton	Peaches	June 7	Aug. 5
620 Bibb Bldg.	875		W-melons	July 21	Aug. 21
ABERDEEN, N. C. **	935	R. H. Lamb	Peaches	July 12	Aug. 7
FRESNO, CALIF.** Sequoia Hotel	919	C. E. Schultz	Grapes	Aug. 2	Nov. 10
WALLA WALLA, WASH.		A. E. Prugh	Prunes	Aug. 2	Aug. 31

The following stations probably will open on dates indicated:

GRAND JUNCTION, COLO.**	846	J. A. Hunter	Potatoes	Aug. 10	Oct. 30
			Onions	Aug. 10	Oct. 30
			Peaches	Aug. 16	Sept. 10
			Pears	Aug. 16	Sept. 30
			Apples	Sept. 13	Oct. 30
ROCKY FORD, COLO.	821	Unassigned	Cants.	Aug. 16	Sept. 25

** State cooperating. *Reports discontinued.

R. H. Shoemaker on leave.
J. G. Scott on leave in Maryland.
J. D. Evers at Boston office.
W. F. Cox at Kansas City office.
W. G. Lensen at Pittsburgh office.

7b. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR JULY 24:

Page 53 - Special paragraphs on late cabbage in the weekly review.
54 - Additional Stations of Market News Service.
55 - New Jersey Potato Prospects, - by E. R. Biddle.
- Inspection Pays Potato Growers, - by C. R. Newton.
56 - North Carolina Peaches Moving, - by R. H. Lamb.
- Consumer Demands Studied by Ohio Growers.
- Marketing Nebraska Seed Potatoes.

8b. APPLE REPORTS STARTED.

The Washington office began issuing daily mimeographed reports on the apple market Wednesday, July 14. These reports will be continued until spring.

B. C. BOREE, Marketing Specialist.

TEMPORARY HEADQUARTERS OF SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION DEALS

State	Federal Supervisor	Products	Approx. date of Opening	Approx. date of Closing
ARKANSAS:	G. W. Winfrey, Van Buren, Ark.	Strawberries*	May 8	May 25*
		Cabbage*	June 5	July 1*
		Blackberries*	June 8	July 1*
		Beans*	June 15	July 7*
		Potatoes*	June 15	July 8*
		Onions*	June 25	July 10*
		Cucumbers*	June 25	July 13*
		Tomatoes*	June 28	July 24*
		Cantaloupes	July 17	Aug. 3
MARYLAND:	Robert Bier, Pocomoke City, Md.	Berries*	May 21	June 19*
		Potatoes	June 15	July 31
GEORGIA:	O. G. Strauss, Hotel Macon, Macon, Ga.	Peaches	June 1	Aug. 7
	J. C. Townsend, Jr., P. O. Box 465, Thomaston, Ga.	Peaches	June 11	July 31
OKLAHOMA:	H. T. Longino, State Mkt. Commission, Oklahoma City, Okla.	Potatoes*	June 1	July 10*
		Tomatoes*	July 5	July 17*
		Cantaloupes	July 19	July 31
		Watermelons	Aug. 2	Aug. 14
KANSAS:	A. S. Mason, Farm Bureau Office, Topeka, Kans.	Potatoes*	July 5	Aug. 7
IOWA:	C. D. Snirley, Pleasant Valley, Ia.	Onions	July 8	Aug. 7
INDIANA:	J. E. Dickerson, County Agent's Office, Vincennes, Ind.	Apples	July 12	Oct. 15
		Tomatoes	July 15	Aug. 10
		Cantaloupes	July 25	Aug. 25
		Peaches	Aug. 5	Sept. 15
DELAWARE:	F. S. Zimmerman, State Bureau of Mkts., Dover, Del.	Apples	July 5	Aug. 7
COLORADO:	N. D. Sanborn, Rocky Ford, Colo.	Cantaloupes	Aug. 9	Sept. 30
The following station closed about date indicated:				
TEXAS:	H. T. Longino, Sulphur Springs, Texas	Peaches	July 12	July 29

*Service completed on products marked with a star.

M. C. Gregory gone to Denver office.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. INSPECTORS, TAKE NOTICE:

A. S. Mason reports that cars carrying potatoes from eastern Kansas are making quick trips. Some are being reloaded when the car cards are only five or six days old. Inspectors at terminal markets might easily assume that such cards and marks apply to the load which they find in the car, when in fact they applied to a preceding load. Therefore, Mr. Mason suggests that all inquiries from terminal inspectors concerning cars of Kansas potatoes should, if possible, give shipper's name, shipping point, date, brand or distinguishing marks.

2c. WHAT DIAMETER OF POTATOES SHALL WE MEASURE?

Recently a ruling was requested from the Standardization project as to the correct method of measuring the minimum size of potatoes. It is assumed that the present provisions of the grade are generally understood, but, in order that the correct interpretation may be a matter of record, we are making this statement in the Division Letter:

The word "diameter" is defined to mean "the greatest dimension at right angles to the longitudinal axis." The longitudinal axis is the "long way" of the potato and is not necessarily the axis passing through the point of attachment of the rhizome (stem), which corresponds to the stem-to-blossom axis of an apple. Under this definition the grade simply provides that all potatoes which will pass through a ring of the prescribed minimum diameter are below grade.

3c. STRIKE OUT PARAGRAPH 124, PART I, RECEIVING-POINT HANDBOOK.

The change in paragraph 3 of Regulation 10, made effective July 1,1925, provided for the charge of expenses in connection with an appeal inspection where the services of a second inspector are required. Paragraph 124, Part I of the Receiving-Point Inspector's Handbook, which formerly covered this matte is no longer valid and should be stricken out of all handbooks, It should be explained to all applicants for inspection, where it is necessary to call in the services of a second inspector, that the traveling expenses of such inspector will be charged to the applicant regardless of the outcome of the inspection. Since applications for reinspections are generally made by parties other than those who requested the original inspection, it is not felt that any particular hardship is imposed upon the applicant by requesting him to pay part of the costs, even though he is not charged any fee if the original certificate is reversed.

4c. CIRCULAR ON EXCESSIVE SPRAY RESIDUE.

With this D.L., each inspector will receive a copy of the Bureau of Chemistry memorandum, dated July 21, and entitled: "Department Warns Against Excessive Spray Residues." Please NOTE that this is confidential, and not for publication.

5c. SHIPPING-POINT MATURITY TESTS ON THOMPSONS AND MALAGAS.

The following wire of July 24 from Mr. Conklin is of interest to all receiving-point inspectors:

"Thompsons and Malagas ripening two weeks early. Tests good 18 or over minimum, but much stock seems sour, probably due high acid contents. Suggest men be careful about reporting these varieties immature, even though they seem sour, unless sugar test actually made. Thompsons generally show light green color, few amber berries. Minimum about 18 or over; average 20 or over. Grading U.S. No.1. Few cars will have test and color for Fancy next week. Malagas green to light color, very few amber berries. Minimum 18; average 19. No cars yet showing test or color for Fancy."

6c. REVISED GRAPE GRADES BEING MAILED.

Within the next day or two, each inspector will be sent copies of the revised U.S. grades for California grapes, - table stock, juice stock, and grapes in sawdust or other packing material. Please advise us, if these are not received in reasonable time. Mailing may not be completed before August 2.

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

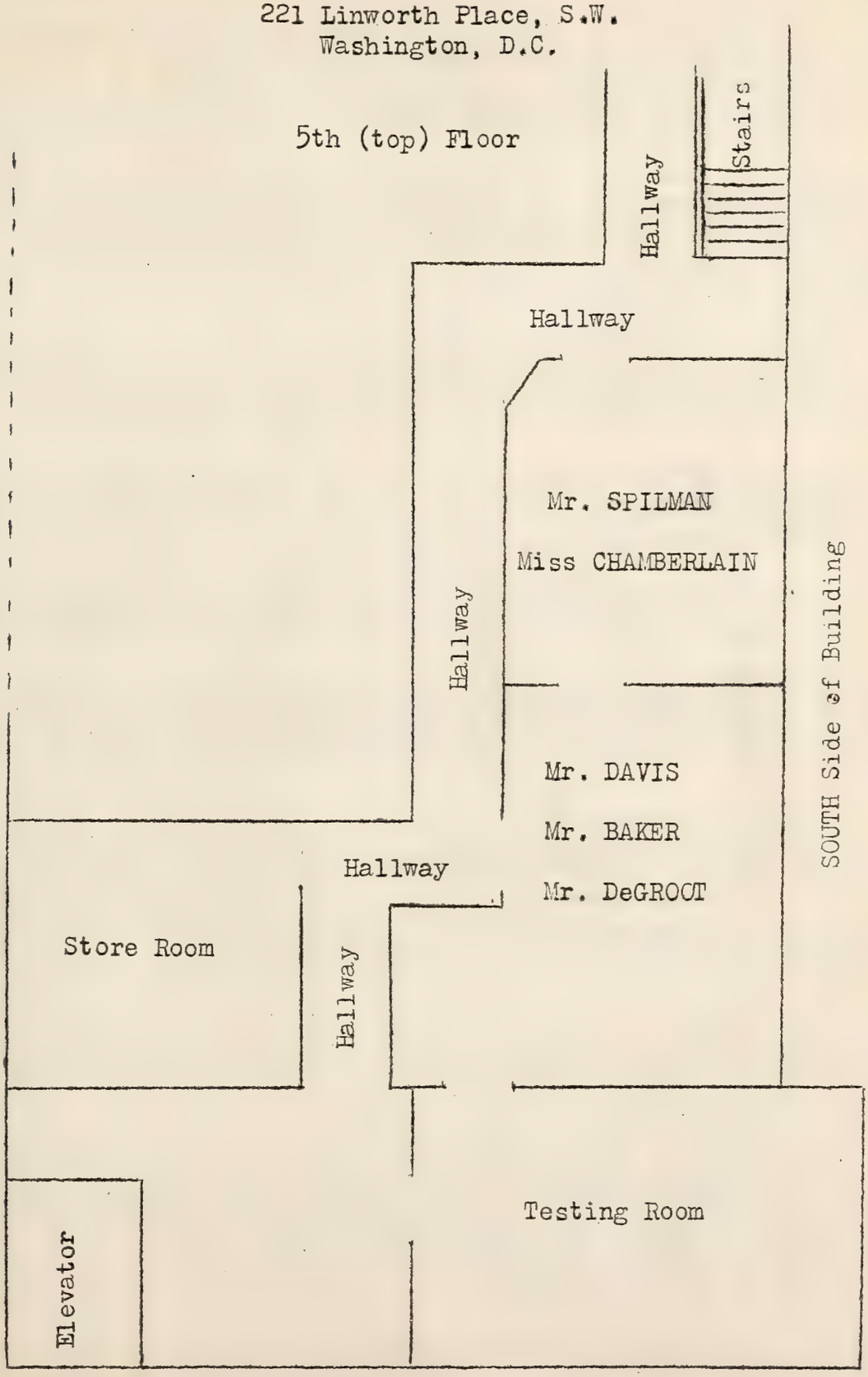
MR. SPILMAN'S SECTION MOVED.

In order to have more space for its work, especially the testing of baskets and other containers, the section enforcing the U.S. Standard Container Act has moved from the Beiber Bldg. to the building at 221 Linworth Place, S.W., Washington. Hundreds of baskets are tested each month, and considerable room is required for the actual laboratory work as well as storage purposes. Technical leaders in this section are H. A. Spilman and Robert W. Davis; those handling the tests and similar work are T. C. J. Baker and A. E. DeGroot, while Miss Beulah Chamberlain is the stenographer and typist. The new quarters contain about 890 square feet of floor space.

No telephone has yet been installed in Mr. Spilman's office, but he can be reached temporarily on phone No.330, which is across the hallway. The diagram on next page shows the general arrangement of the new quarters. The drawing is on a scale of 1/8 inch to 1 foot.

New Quarters
of Section Having in Charge the
ENFORCEMENT OF THE U.S. STANDARD CONTAINER ACT,

221 Linworth Place, S.W.
Washington, D.C.



REAR of Building - WEST SIDE

This building is just half a block south of the Bieber Building, which houses the other projects of the Fruit and Vegetable Div.

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Robb left for the Eastern Shore of Maryland yesterday morning, on the trip outlined in last week's D.L. He expects to return by Saturday, and early next week will proceed to Chicago to confer with inspectors there and with members of the training class.

Mr. Stillwell went to Pocomoke City and other Eastern Shore points yesterday afternoon, to look into the advisability of extending the market news service there to include cantaloupes, sweet potatoes and tomatoes. He expects to confer with members of the staff in Philadelphia before returning to his desk early next week.

Occupants in about half the rooms of the F. & V. Division are being moved this week to other locations on the same (5th) floor of the Bieber Bldg. Things are upset and there may be slight delay in handling some of the work.

During the period August 2 - 18, J. G. Scott, formerly in charge of the Cincinnati office of the News Service, will be on leave at 210 Bedford Ave., Princess Anne, Md.

W. G. Lensen has now reached Pittsburgh and is substituting for J. K. Boyd until August 17.

Mrs. Mildred S. Colby has been reinstated at Minneapolis for two months to assist with the work while members of the staff are on vacation. In addition to clerical leave, R. M. Ferguson, inspector, is absent until August 1.

Wm. E. Lewis left on Tuesday for Eastern Shore of Maryland, where he is working out the details for inspection of cannery tomatoes. This service will be in effect at certain canning plants, - Princess Anne and other points, - beginning within the next few weeks. Arrangements are being perfected in company with S. B. Shaw, of the Maryland State staff.

Edwin Smith expects to go to New York City early next week and spend Tuesday and Wednesday in conference with officials of the American Cranberry Exchange and with apple exporting firms, regarding European markets for cranberries and apples.

F. E. Bailey, Supervising Inspector for the State of Washington, will have his new office at Room 212, Holtzinger Bldg., Yakima, Wash. Mail can now be addressed to him at Yakima, but for the next two weeks telegrams should still be sent to Room 423, Federal Bldg., Spokane, and Mrs. Gerry will forward them to Mr. Bailey wherever he happens to be at the time.

H. T. Longino completed his supervision of peach inspections in northern Texas on Thursday, and will proceed at once to Oklahoma, to take over the work which was being handled by M. C. Gregory. Mr. Gregory goes to the Denver office, to assist during the next month or so, while N. D. Sanborn is supervising cantaloupe inspections at Rocky Ford, Colo.

OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

W. L. Evans left a few days ago and is traveling by automobile to his former home at Lee Center, N.Y., where he will be on vacation until August 15.

Miss Lorraine McWilliams has been given the clerical position in the Baltimore office, which was recently vacated by Miss Losinsky.

J. G. Cross expects to leave about August 4 and confer with railroad officials in practically all of the southeastern States, from Virginia to Louisiana. He may be absent a month. Important cities to be visited include Norfolk, Va.; Savannah and Atlanta, Ga., and New Orleans, La. Arrangements for shipment reports on fruits, vegetables and peanuts will be strengthened, and unload reports in terminal markets will be looked into. Lettuce-shipping points in North and South Carolina will be included in Mr. Cross' itinerary, for the purpose of reconciling differences between shipment and unload reports of this product.

The item in last week's D.L. regarding change of our offices at Macon, Ga., was in error. Mr. Shoemaker still occupies Room 620 in the Bibb Bldg., and Mr. Sutton has Room 618. It is expected that Mr. Shoemaker will go on leave after this week, and the peach market reports will be handled by Mr. Sutton, in connection with his other work on watermelons.

Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Kast, of the New York City staff, plan to go on leave at Albion, N.Y., starting this Saturday. Mr. Kast will return to duty about August 20 but Mrs. Kast will be on leave without pay from then until September 1.

In Par. 2c of the last D.L., the figures "$125" did not print very well. The premium which inspected cars of Louisiana potatoes brought was as high as $125 per car.

C. E. Schultz went from Los Angeles to San Francisco last Monday, to meet with members of the American Railway Association and Advisory Board officers for discussion of details on handling California grape shipments.

Additions to the clerical force in Washington include the following:- Charles E. Wise, Jr., who is assisting with telegraphic reports of shipments; Mrs. A. R. Bowman and Mrs. M. V. Smith, temporary appointees, who are helping with the heavy work on inspection certificates in Mr. Robb's section, and Miss Esther Eisert, from the clerical pool, who also is working on certificates. Mrs. Lucy A. Stiegle has been appointed as a stencil cutter for Mr. Clay, and Mrs. Rebecca Garrison is helping temporarily with stencil cutting.

Between August 1 and 14, J. B. Wright will be substituting for S. H. Fountain, at Vallejo, Calif., and from August 15 to September 1 he can be addressed at P. O. Box 112, San Diego, in which city he substitutes for J. R. Duncan.

J. A. Hunter is leaving Fort Worth for Grand Junction, Colo., and will stop at the Denver office en route.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER VOL. 7, NO. 32.
August 6, 1926.
(Contents Confidential)

1a. MORE NEWS ON COLORADO LETTUCE

On July 24 and 25, Wendell Calhoun visited the lettuce-shipping districts in the Eagle Valley and at Buena Vista, Colo. Quality there is very good and this region should ship some excellent stock. Acreage is mostly on hillsides with a northern and northeastern exposure, so that the effects of the sun are not so serious. The lettuce usually heads up well and there is little tip-burn. Movement was just getting under way, with total shipments expected to be about the same as last year. About 20 sheds are in operation in that section, representing 10 shippers.

Around Moffat, Mr. Calhoun advises, the acreage is considerably larger than last season, and Yampa probably will continue its record as the heaviest shipping point in the State. Total lettuce shipments from Colorado are expected to increase gradually during August, with peak movement between September 1 and 10. Quality of the San Luis Valley lettuce continues to be rather ordinary; demand has weakened and prices recently have tended downward.

In a later letter, dated July 31, Mr. Calhoun reported that the lettuce deal seems to be in rather a bad way, due to the loading of so much poor stuff. Some of the early deals have already "blown up." The San Luis Valley has been especially hard hit. Growers were inclined to get panicky and tried to cut as much stock as they could before all the lettuce went bad. Later plantings and higher altitude patches will be coming on within the next week, and it is hoped that better lettuce can then be shipped.

2a. JULY SUPPLEMENT TO "CROPS AND MARKETS."

The July Supplement to "Crops and Markets" was received from the Printing Office on Wednesday morning, and copies doubtless have reached all offices by this time.

3a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR JULY 31:

Page 69 - Special paragraphs on peaches in the weekly review.
70 - Correction of article appearing in paper for July 17.
71 - Imperial Cantaloupe Deal Unprofitable, - by C. E. Schultz.
- Special News Service on Prunes.
- Wiping Apples Mechanically.
72 - Sweet-Potato Growers Cooperate Actively.
- Almost a Million Cars Shipped.
- Distribution of Dollar Paid for Citrus Fruit.
80 - Germany Imports Less Fresh and More Dried Fruit.
- Great Britian Restricts Imports of French Cherries.
- Australian Apples Meeting Adverse Conditions in England.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. METHOD OF MAILING SUMMARIES TO BE CHANGED.

Hereafter, before closing any temporary field office, a questionnaire should be sent to all on the mailing list, asking whether or not they will be interested in receiving a copy of the summary to be issued before the opening of the next shipping season.

The questionnaires must be mailed in white envelopes and state that the summary will not be mailed to anyone who does not request it. The same procedure is to be followed in market stations, when summaries are issued by them.

2b. GEORGIA PEACH NEWS.

In a letter of July 29, from Macon, Mr. Shoemaker advised that shipments of peaches have been running much heavier than officially estimated. The North Georgia deal, around Cornelia, was expected to start shipping white varieties about August 2, with Elbertas a few days later. Tonnage in that section is estimated at 700 to 750 cars, so that movement of Georgia peaches should continue rather heavily until mid-August and perhaps later.

3b. TENNESSEE PEACH PROSPECTS.

The eastern Tennessee peach deal is rapidly growing, according to a letter from our Macon office. One of the leading firms handling Georgia peaches has already moved its field headquarters to Harriman, Tenn., in order to be closer to the movement at that point. This firm controls about 45% of the eastern Tennessee tonnage, and reports probable shipments of 1,800 or 2,000cars this season. Last year the entire State shipped only 600 cars. Present season's movement is just beginning.

4b. PRELIMINARY REVIEWS WELL RECEIVED.

A number of field men are in the habit of tabulating statistics on a certain deal from day to day, so as to be in position to publish a brief review of the deal as soon as the field station closes. This form of preliminary review - i.e., preliminary to the complete mimeographed summary, - seems to be meeting with much favor. C. E. Schultz advises that he has had many applications for additional copies of his review of the Imperial Valley cantaloupe deal, and has received numerous commendations. Newspapers and trade papers also make use of the material and give it wide publicity.

5b. ADDITIONAL REPORTS ON FOREIGN MARKETS:

F.S.:F-30, "Georgia Peaches to England," by Edwin Smith.
F.S.:A-57, "Australian Apples Meeting Adverse Conditions in England," by Edwin Smith.
F.S.:N-10, "The Nut Industry in Greece."
F.S.:CF-27,"Grapefruit Prospects in the Isle of Pines." "Fruit Association Formed in Vera Cruz, Mexico."

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

Stations	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably will close
POCOMOKE CITY, MD.** Peninsula Bldg.	878	H. E. Rutland	Berries*	May 21	June 18*
			Potatoes*	June 14	Aug. 4*
			Cants.	Aug. 6	Aug. 21
			Sweets	Aug. 12	Oct. 9
MACON, GA.**	833	R. L. Sutton	Peaches	June 7	Aug. 7
620 Bibb Bldg.	875		W-melons	July 21	Aug. 21
ABERDEEN, N. C. **	935	R. H. Lamb	Peaches	July 12	Aug. 12
FRESNO, CALIF. ** Sequoia Hotel	919	C. E. Schultz	Grapes	Aug. 5	Nov. 10
GRAND JUNCTION, COLO.**	846	J. A. Hunter	Potatoes	Aug. 10	Oct. 30
			Onions	Aug. 10	Oct. 30
			Peaches	Aug. 16	Sept. 10
			Pears	Aug. 16	Sept. 30
			Apples	Sept. 13	Oct. 30

The following station probably will open on date indicated:

ROCKY FORD, COLO.	821	W. F. Cox	Cants.	Aug. 16	Sept. 25

** State cooperating. * Reports discontinued.

R. H. Shoemaker on leave in Canada.
J. G. Scott on leave in Maryland.
J. D. Evers on leave in Massachusetts.
W. F. Cox on leave in Nebraska.
W. G. Lensen at Pittsburgh office.
A. E. Prugh at Walla Walla, Wash.

6b. KAW VALLEY AND ORRICK SECTION POTATOES.

G. D. Clark has advised from Kansas City that Kaw Valley potato shipments will continue fairly heavy until the middle of August. Previously, digging had been delayed because of the low prices, but since markets have advanced shipments doubtless will be greatly increased. The stronger market may also attract more potatoes from Minnesota and Idaho, thus resulting in greater competition for Kansas and Missouri stock. Early estimates for the Kaw Valley indicated a total of 3,000 cars, but Mr. Clark believes now that the actual figure will be around 3,800 cars. Rains increased the size of the tubers, so that, even with a light set, the total volume has been materially augmented. Probably 65% of the crop had been dug by August 1.

Similar conditions to those in Kansas have prevailed in the Orrick section of Missouri, except that growers there have been slower to dig the potatoes. With about 600 cars moved, they still have nearly two-thirds of the crop to harvest.

7b. PUBLICATION OF F.O.B.REPORTS.

It is frequently brought to our attention that all f.o.b. reports are not being copied by all offices on the circuits. Please instruct all telegraphers on the leased wire hereafter to copy all f.o.b. reports, in order that they may be on file in each office. Unless there is no demand for them, the reports should be published daily or whenever received. This request is being made in the belief that there are some dealers on every market who want all of the f.o.b. information that can be made available to them.

E. W. STILLWELL,
Specialist in Market News.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. NORTH TEXAS INSPECTION DEALS.

After reaching Oklahoma City, from which point he will supervise inspections of Oklahoma watermelons, H. T. Longino advised that 286 cars of Elberta peaches were inspected in northern Texas before he left and that not one car was straight U.S. No.1 grade. Shippers were using inspection chiefly as a means of eliminating culls. About 40 cars of onions were inspected in Collin County, Texas, after Mr. Mosier left. Quality and condition were so poor near the end of the deal that inspection was discontinued. Weather conditions were causing watermelons, in both Texas and Oklahoma,to blister. The market for melons was very unsatisfactory.

2c. SOUTHERN INDIANA INSPECTIONS.

Recent information from J. E. Dickerson, at Vincennes, indicates that the late spring and dry weather affected adversely many of the crops in southern Indiana. Most of the deals thus far have been disappointing. Summer apples were of good size but the yield was light and prices were so low that at least one shipper stopped picking his crop. Most cars inspected were of No. 1 quality. The tomato crop was delayed. Quality was poorer than usual and many cars ran heavily to smaller sizes. By August 2 only 25 cars had moved from the Decker section, as against 83 cars shipped last year. Shipments have practically stopped on account of low prices.

The cantaloupe deal around Decker closed exceptionally early. Prospects were good during the growing period and it was estimated that 550 cars would be shipped. Dry weather reduced the yield and total output may be only 200 cars, compared with 480 last season. Quality and flavor were above average; nearly all cars which were inspected graded U.S. No. 1. Good rains last Saturday and Sunday came too late to help the cantaloupes materially, and the season was rapidly approaching an end. The rains helped peaches in southern Indiana, and Mr. Dickerson is lining up quite a number of cars for inspection. Movement in carlots may not begin before August 20 or 25.

2½c. NEW JERSEY POTATOES AND PEACHES.

New Jersey potatoes are being inspected at Cranbury, Englishtown, Marlboro, Hightstown and Princeton Jct., under supervision of W. C. Lynn, of the Trenton office. It is expected that work on peaches will begin next week.

3c. ATTENTION SHIPPING-POINT SUPERVISORS:

It is highly important that shipping-point certificates, which show products below grade, give the reasons for such certification and show whether the defects which throw the lot out of grade are generally distributed throughout the load or are confined to a few lots or to certain portions of the load.

A few cases have occurred where it is evident that the shipping-point inspector was too technical in his interpretation of defects and threw out of grade cars which should have been certified as meeting the grade requirements. Inspectors making appeal inspections can never be certain that they are correct in raising the grade on any lot unless they know whether the defects found by the shipping-point inspector were general or were restricted to certain lots. It is urged, therefore, that certificates of this kind, issued at shipping point, be very specific in their statements covering the off-grade stock which resulted in the car falling below grade specifications.

4c. CONFIRMATION INSPECTIONS ON LESS THAN CARLOTS.

Confirmation inspections are frequently requested on cars which have been partly unloaded. Such inspections may be made on the remaining stock, but statement should be made under REMARKS, showing restriction of certificate to the portion remaining, and to the following effect: "The entire carlot, part of which is covered by this certificate, was inspected at shipping point and certified as grading U.S. 1 (or whatever the grade may be), which grade is confirmed for the part of the load described above."

5c. RECEIVING-POINT NUMBER FOR JACKSONVILLE.

The receiving-point number for use in marking cars inspected at Jacksonville will be 40.

6c. SAMPLES FOR MATURITY TESTS OF TABLE GRAPES.

Immaturity is a grade defect of table grapes, and tolerances apply to this as well as to other grade defects. No lot should be certified below grade on account of failing to meet the minimum tests, unless it contains immature grapes which, together with the other grade defects, total more than 10%. In selecting samples for testing, therefore, the grade defects other than immaturity should first be removed from the container. If these total less than 10%, enough of the greenest bunches should be removed to bring the total of defects up to 10%. The test should then be made from the greenest bunches still remaining in the container. Example: If there are 6% (by weight) various defects, such as sunburn, mildew and discolored berries, take out 4% by weight of the greenest bunches and make the test from the greenest then remaining in the container.

Since the lug is the unit of juice grapes, the test should be made from average bunches from the greenest-appearing lug, without reference to the tolerance.

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

TOTAL FRUIT AND VEGETABLE INSPECTIONS JULY 1, 1925, to JUNE 30, 1926.

Station	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	Total
Atlanta#	77	48	68	69	100	70	99	71	60	70	53	55	840
Baltimore	24	41	30	18	43	19	31	30	32	33	34	51	386
Boston	239	111	102	118	210	84	90	113	116	274	365	361	2183
Buffalo	67	31	11	23	23	21	45	36	33	95	130	123	638
Chicago	226	140	136	220	388	277	274	221	264	293	206	240	2885
Cincinnati	47	24	34	45	69	38	38	45	57	42	42	55	536
Cleveland	292	179	50	46	43	40	82	57	141	154	223	257	1564
Columbus#	44	17	28	14	25	19	25	18	27	26	43	54	340
Denver#	16	4	9	11	14	11	10	8	21	24	8	15	151
Detroit	202	111	54	50	67	61	91	82	92	223	363	336	1732
Duluth	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	25	96	-	-	134
Fort Worth	-	-	-	43	43	23	24	17	28	3	-	-	181
Harrisburg#	-	-	3	3	3	-	3	-	2	4	2	3	23
Houston	-	-	-	8	64	33	25	30	-	-	-	-	160
Indianapolis	42	23	24	22	41	32	26	42	51	44	26	30	403
Jacksonville	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	10	29	40
Kansas City	62	39	39	70	129	78	85	60	64	72	41	54	793
Los Angeles#	2	6	7	-	13	11	4	15	9	14	6	13	100
Memphis	21	36	70	53	54	62	45	49	41	41	41	59	572
Milwaukee	78	37	26	19	33	19	27	27	27	42	130	82	547
Minneapolis	27	41	32	22	67	35	41	62	70	60	41	46	544
Newark#	29	22	35	30	67	34	27	27	23	34	23	-	351
New Haven	50	31	51	57	45	50	66	55	95	56	54	62	672
New Orleans	83	107	127	136	138	125	115	79	83	90	43	63	1194
New York	604	388	681	1183	1380	1061	547	511	581	694	709	841	9180
Norfolk#	20	13	14	23	46	21	20	20	18	22	26	20	263
Omaha	39	27	16	18	25	16	26	40	38	45	37	31	358
Philadelphia	112	73	32	57	115	63	78	75	87	161	172	131	1156
Pittsburgh	285	224	56	189	220	48	72	89	102	165	304	248	2002
Portland#	16	8	39	130	29	40	47	47	33	28	28	26	471
Raleigh#	-	-	-	-	3	3	6	4	3	-	-	-	19
Sacramento	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	2	-	-	-	-	7
St. Louis	85	93	130	112	184	93	115	99	80	106	152	123	1372
Salt Lake City#	7	1	2	1	2	2	1	2	5	4	2	3	32
San Diego	-	-	2	-	5	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	9
San Francisco#	-	1	3	14	3	4	3	5	10	4	6	6	59
Washington#	21	25	19	30	22	22	64	41	19	13	26	21	343
Wichita	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	18	23	16	8	71
Wilkes Barre#	25	14	10	15	15	9	7	11	15	21	34	45	220
TOTAL	2842	1915	1940	2848	3748	2529	2259	2109	2375	3078	3306	3492	32531

- No inspector located at stations so marked during the months thus indicated.
\# In offices so marked, inspector devotes only part of his time to inspection work.

Market Reinspections:

Appeal inspections requested - 45: original report sustained - 34,
original report reversed - 11.

MARKET INSPECTIONS BY COMMODITIES, JULY 1, 1925, to JUNE 30, 1926.

FRUITS:	
Apples	5784
Apricots	20
Avocados	9
Bananas	125
Blackberries	40
Cherries	1252
Cranberries	27
Currants	14
Dewberries	2
Figs	67
Grapes	1807
Grapefruit	846
Kumquats	1
Lemons	65
Limes	1
Loganberries	3
Nectarines	1
Oranges	710
Other Berries	79
Peaches	794
Pears	1034
Pineapples	45
Plums	94
Pomegranates	1
Prunes	84
Quinces	1
Raspberries	35
Satsumas	2
Strawberries	1829
Tangerines	82
Mixed Citrus	29
Mixed Fruits	22
Mixed Fruits and Vegetables	2
TOTAL	14907

NUTS:	
Chestnuts	20
Peanuts	1148
Walnuts	3
Other Nuts	1
TOTAL	1172

MISCELLANEOUS:	
Christmas Trees	6
Christmas Decorations	2
Lily Bulbs	5
TOTAL	13
Total	16092
GRAND TOTAL	32531

VEGETABLES:	
Anise	6
Artichokes	57
Asparagus	368
Beans	650
Beets	68
Brussels Sprouts	8
Cabbage	962
Cabbage Plants	1
Cantaloupes	691
Carrots	181
Cauliflower and Broccoli	289
Celery	455
Celery Cabbage	1
Chicory	49
Corn	78
Cucumbers	277
Eggplant	45
Endive	14
Escarole	19
Fennel	2
Garlic	18
Greens-Dandelion - Mustard	15
Horseradish	4
Honey Dews	69
Kale	23
Kraut	1
Lettuce	901
Melons -Honey Balls-Casabas	11
Mushrooms	11
Okra	18
Olives	80
Onions	1616
Onion Sets	23
Parsley	31
Parsnips	6
Peas	299
Peppers	217
Pickles	2
Potatoes	6167
Radishes	10
Rhubarb	6
Rice	1
Romaine	4
Rutabagas	57
Shallots	13
Spinach	423
Squash	14
Sweet Potatoes	425
Tomatoes	1175
Turnips	80
Watercress	1
Watermelons	412
Mixed Vegetables	85
TOTAL	16439

TEMPORARY HEADQUARTERS OF SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION DEALS.

State	Federal Supervisor	Products	Approx. date of Opening	Approx. date of Closing
OKLAHOMA:	H. T. Longino, State Mkt. Commission, Oklahoma City, Okla.	Potatoes*	June 1	July 10*
		Tomatoes*	July 5	July 17*
		Cantaloupes*	July 19	July 31*
		Watermelons	Aug. 2	Aug. 14
KANSAS:	A. S. Mason, Farm Bureau Office, Topeka, Kans.	Potatoes	July 5	Aug. 14
IOWA:	C. D. Shirley, St. Ansgar, Ia.	Onions	Aug. 9	Sept. 30
INDIANA:	J. E. Dickerson, County Agent's Office, Vincennes, Ind.	Apples	July 12	Oct. 15
		Tomatoes*	July 15	Aug. 5*
		Cantaloupes*	July 25	Aug. 7*
		Peaches	Aug. 20	Sept. 15
DELAWARE:	F. S. Zimmerman, State Bureau of Mkts., Dover, Del.	Apples*	July 5	Aug. 4*
		Peaches	Aug. 14	Aug. 31
		Grapes	Aug. 23	Sept. 15
COLORADO:	N. D. Sanborn, Rocky Ford, Colo.	Cantaloupes	Aug. 9	Sept. 30
The following stations closed about dates indicated:				
ARKANSAS:	G. W. Winfrey, Van Buren, Ark.	Strawberries	May 8	May 25.
		Cabbage	June 5	July 1
		Blackberries	June 8	July 1
		Beans	June 15	July 7
		Potatoes	June 15	July 8
		Onions	June 25	July 10
		Cucumbers	June 25	July 13
		Tomatoes	June 28	July 24
		Cantaloupes	July 17	Aug. 3
MARYLAND:	Robert Bier, Pocomoke City, Md.	Berries	May 21	June 19
		Potatoes	June 15	July 31
GEORGIA:	O. G. Strauss, Hotel Macon, Macon, Ga.	Peaches	June 1	Aug. 5
	J. C. Townsend, Jr., Thomaston, Ga.	Peaches	June 11	July 31
IOWA:	C. D. Shirley, Pleasant Valley, Ia.	Onions	July 8	Aug. 7

*Service completed on products marked with a star.

G. W. Winfrey returned to New Orleans.
O. G. Strauss at Indianapolis office.
J. C. Townsend, Jr., on leave; will be at New York office by Aug. 18.

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Samson expects to go to Providence, R. I., early next week and confer on Tuesday with various parties interested in the U.S. grades for apples.

Edwin Smith will attend the annual convention of the International Apple Shippers Association at Buffalo from August 10 to 12. He will meet with members of the Association for a discussion of methods and conditions of exporting American apples. On August 13, Mr. Smith will attend the summer field meeting of the New York State Horticultural Society at the farm of its President, Edward Mitchell, at Stuyvesant Falls, N.Y., and will address this meeting on the subject: "American Apples and Export Markets." From August 16 to 20, Mr. Smith will confer with apple growers and shippers at various points in Virginia, chiefly Charlottesville, Staunton, Fisherville, Winchester, and Washington. A series of meetings has been arranged at these places by F. A. Motz, of the State Extension Service. Mr. Smith's general subject for discussion will be: "Exporting Virginian Apples in 1926."

Wm. E. Lewis left today for Easton, Md., where a conference will be held with packers, some of whom will use the Federal grades for cannery tomatoes this season. From there, Mr. Lewis will go to Salisbury, Berlin, Fruitland, and Pocomoke City, Md., to carry out arrangements for inspection work on cannery tomatoes. Laurel and other points in Delaware also may be visited.

R. W. Davis expects to visit package factories on the Eastern Shore next week, in connection with the enforcement of the Standard Container Act. He also will look into the handling and packing of cantaloupes.

His study of produce shipments by truck has taken G. A. DeHaven into New Jersey. All of this week, Mr. DeHaven has been visiting various parts of the State, to get a line on the volume of stuff hauled by truck.

Robert Bier came back to Washington on Sunday, after five weeks' service on the Eastern Shore potato inspection deal. George Copeland, a licensee, remains in charge of the work on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, which will continue until fall and will include such products as apples, peaches, cantaloupes, sweet potatoes, tomatoes, etc. General supervision will still be given from the Washington office.

F. S. Zimmerman has completed the inspection deal on summer apples in Delaware, with a record of 321 cars and one storage lot during July. He has returned to New York City until about August 14, when peach inspections will begin at Delaware shipping points. Grapes also will be handled later.

O. G. Strauss completed his supervision of inspection work on Georgia peaches and has gone to Indianapolis, where he will substitute for B. H. Rowell and take his own annual leave.

The Kansas City office expects to begin publishing grape market reports about August 16, for the benefit of growers and shippers in the Ozark region.

OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

A wire received this morning from C. H. Behnke, supervising inspector at Wenatchee, Wash., announces his intention to resign by August 20, to accept a position with H. S. Dennison & Co., a large fruit-shipping firm in the Northwest. This news is received with much regret, as Mr. Behnke has rendered excellent service since his appointment three years ago, chiefly in Chicago and on shipping-point work.

G. H. Irish, of the New York inspection staff, has just returned from a two-weeks' vacation, spent at Turner, Maine.

T. J. Sullivan, of B.A.I., who handled the fruit and vegetable inspections for the Navy at Charlestown, Mass., has been succeeded by J. T. Crowley, also of B.A.I.

Congratulations are extended J. C. Townsend, Jr., who was married in Charleston, S.C., today to Miss Sarah Mikell Legare. After a brief honeymoon, Mr. Townsend will assist with inspections in New York City. He had been working on Georgia peaches since early June.

Announcement has been received of the birth of a daughter, Barbara Francis, to Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Harris, of Los Angeles, on July 22.

The market news office at Pocomoke City, Md., will be continued until October, for the issuance of reports on cantaloupes and sweet potatoes.

J. D. Evers, who substituted for H. S. Stiles, in Boston, is now taking his own annual leave, presumably at his home in Malden, Mass.

Having finished the inspection work on a large number of products in Arkansas, G. W. Winfrey has returned to his headquarters at New Orleans. F. M. Lyle, who has been at New Orleans, will proceed to Chicago and assist with the work in that market.

J. J. Gardner made a short trip last week to apple-shipping points in the Potomac Valley region, preliminary to the inspection season there. On Mr. Gardner's return to Pittsburgh last Sunday, M.W. Baker started his annual leave. J. A. Marks will remain in Pittsburgh until the Arkansas grape deal opens.

C. D. Shirley has completed inspection work on onions at Pleasant Valley and will move his headquarters next Monday to St. Ansgar, Iowa.

Mrs. Alma M. Calvert has been added to the force of temporary clerks in Washington who are helping with work on inspection certificates. She formerly was in Land Economics.

H. A. Spilman's office telephone is Branch 318, - no longer 330.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER VOL. 7, NO. 33.
August 13, 1926.
(Contents Confidential)

1a. INFORMATION DESIRED ON FLORIDA GRAPES.

Dr. L. C. Corbett, in charge of Horticultural Investigations, B.P.I., is anxious to obtain all possible information on Florida grapes arriving in city markets. If any inspector or market news man has observed car-lots or l.c.l. shipments in his market, please send us a report as to the quantities arriving, the dates of arrival, the condition of the grapes, package, etc. Address your reply to this office, and not to Dr. Corbett. The various replies will then be assembled and briefed, before transmittal to B.P.I. Please mark letters: "Attention of Mr. Bier."

2a. ADDITIONAL REPORTS ON FOREIGN MARKETS:

F.S.:F-29, "British and German Fruit Imports for June and for the Last Twelve Months."
F.S.:F-31. "Georgia Peaches Compete with Italian Product in London,"- by Edwin Smith.
F.S.:A-59. "Czechoslovak Apple Situation."

3a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR AUGUST 7:

Page 85 - Special paragraphs on potatoes in the weekly review.
87 - Good Outlook for European Potatoes.
- California Peaches an Important Crop, - based on summary by C. J. Hansen and O. W. Holmes.
88 - Cantaloupes and Tomatoes in Southern Indiana, - by J. E. Dickerson.
- Southern Indiana Apple Deal Disappointing, - by J. E. Dickerson.
- Georgia Peaches to England.
- Heavy Movement of California Pears, - based on summary by C. J. Hansen and O. W. Holmes.
96 - Index Numbers of Agricultural Exports, June, 1926.
- United Kingdom Imports of Fresh Fruit.
- Lemon Prospects in Sicily.

4a. GRAPE PRICES IN LODI DISTRICT.

California Inspectors' Notes for August 6 quotes the following from a Lodi, Calif., newspaper, dated August 5:

Lodi Grape Prices for This Season.

U. S. No. 1 Grade	Per ton, f.o.b.	U.S. No.1 Grade	Per ton f.o.b.
Alicantes	$90.00-$100.00	Thompsons	$35.00
Carignanes	75.00- 80.00		
Mataros	75.00- 80.00	U.S. No.1 Table	Per box f.o.b.
Zinfandels	67.00- 72.50	Malagas	$1.00-$1.15
Muscats	40.00	Thompsons	.75- .85

5a. ARRANGEMENT OF WASHINGTON OFFICE SPACE.

On the next page is a diagram of the 5th floor of the Bieber Bldg., Washington, showing the location of each project of the Fruit and Vegetable Division and listing the employees in each room. A very general description of the activities is given below:

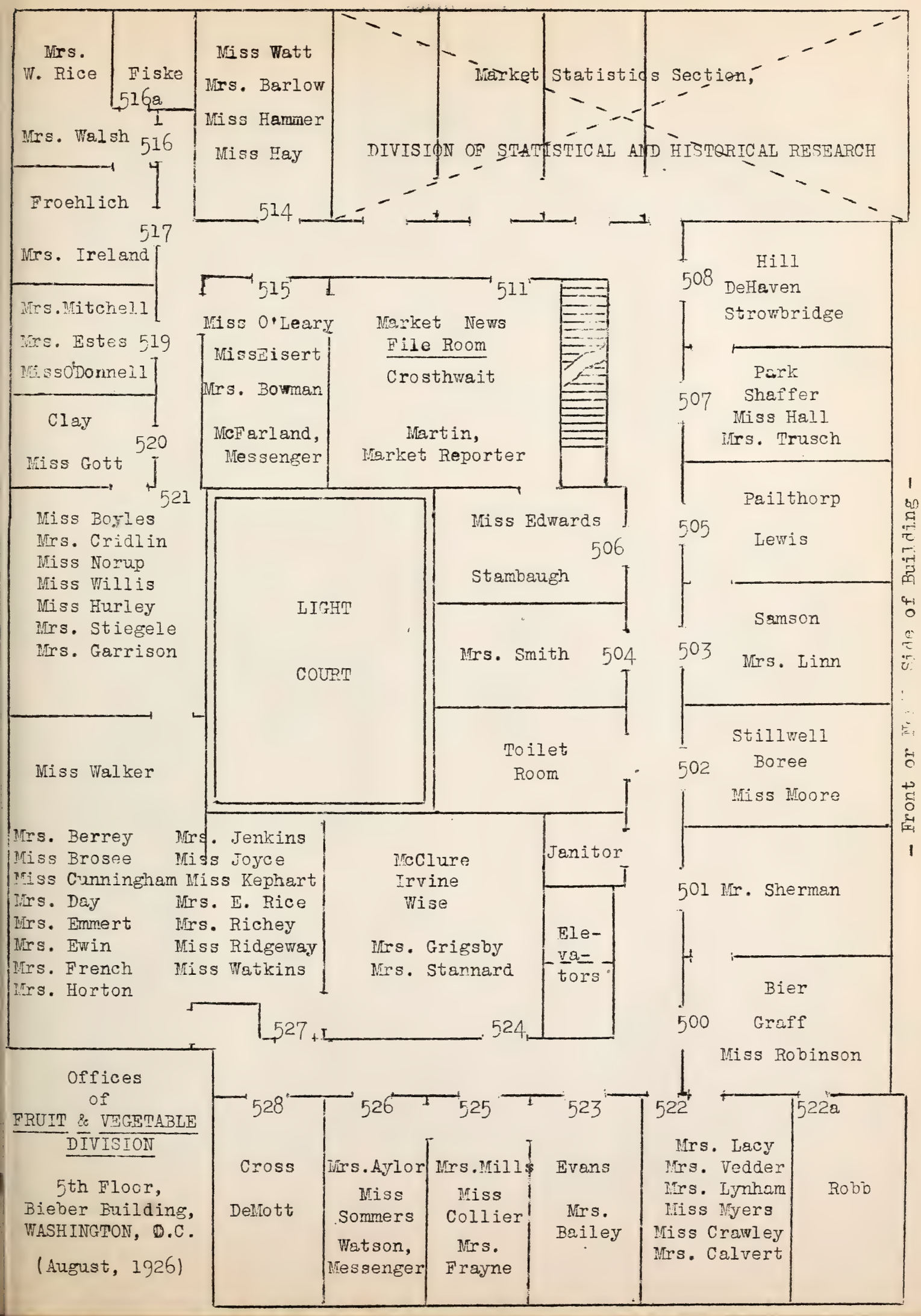
ROOM	
500, 522, 522a, 504, 515	Inspection Service on Fruits and Vegetables.
501	Mr. Sherman's office.
502	Headquarters of Market News Service.
506, 511, 514, 519, 520, 521	General offices of Market News Service, with work on unload reports done chiefly in Room 514.
516, 516a, 517	Price tabulations, market reviews, etc. DIVISION LETTER is prepared in Room 517.
503, 505, 507, 508	Standardization work, research, special studies, and preparation of bulletins.
523, 525, 526	General administrative offices.
524, 527, 528	Shipments reports; transportation work.

In connection with Rooms 523 and 528, it should be said that Mrs. Bailey and Mr. DeMott spend most of their time on work of the Domestic Wool Section.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

1b. WASHING POTATOES IN CALIFORNIA.

C. J. Hansen, in a letter of August 6, gives an interesting account of the potato operations of the Zuckerman Brothers in the Delta region of northern California. They grow potatoes and onions exclusively on McDonald Island, which contains 2,300 acres. The youngest brother has perfected and patented a potato digger and washer, which are being used on all potatoes. The digger lets the potatoes run into field sacks at the rear of the machine and thereby avoids the troubles usually resulting from tubers lying on the ground in the hot sun. They are later placed in a tank of running water for two minutes and then pass to an antiseptic tank, containing a light solution of chlorine water, after which they are graded and sacked. These washed potatoes bring a premium of 15¢ per 100 pounds on the San Francisco market.


Mrs. W. Rice
Fiske
516a
Mrs. Walsh
516
Froehlich
517
Mrs. Ireland
Mrs. Mitchell
Mrs. Estes
519
Miss O'Donnell
Clay
520
Miss Gott
521
Miss Boyles
Mrs. Cridlin
Miss Norup
Miss Willis
Miss Hurley
Mrs. Stiegele
Mrs. Garrison
Miss Walker
Mrs. Berrey
Miss Brosee
Miss Cunningham
Mrs. Day
Mrs. Emmert
Mrs. Ewin
Mrs. French
Mrs. Horton
Mrs. Jenkins
Miss Joyce
Miss Kephart
Mrs. E. Rice
Mrs. Richey
Miss Ridgeway
Miss Watkins
527
Miss Watt
Mrs. Barlow
Miss Hammer
Miss Hay
514
Market Statistics Section,
DIVISION OF STATISTICAL AND HISTORICAL RESEARCH
515
511
Miss O'Leary
Miss Eisert
Mrs. Bowman
McFarland, Messenger
Market News File Room
Crosthwait
Martin, Market Reporter
LIGHT COURT
Miss Edwards
506
Stambaugh
Mrs. Smith
504
Toilet Room
McClure
Irvine
Wise
Mrs. Grigsby
Mrs. Stannard
524
Janitor
Ele-va-tors
Hill
508
DeHaven
Strowbridge
Park
Shaffer
507
Miss Hall
Mrs. Trusch
Pailthorp
505
Lewis
Samson
503
Mrs. Linn
Stillwell
Boree
502
Miss Moore
501
Mr. Sherman
Bier
500
Graff
Miss Robinson
Front or Main Side of Building
Offices of FRUIT & VEGETABLE DIVISION
5th Floor, Bieber Building, WASHINGTON, D.C.
(August, 1926)
528
Cross
DeMott
526
Mrs. Aylor
Miss Sommers
Watson, Messenger
525
Mrs. Mills
Miss Collier
Mrs. Frayne
523
Evans
Mrs. Bailey
522
Mrs. Lacy
Mrs. Vedder
Mrs. Lynham
Miss Myers
Miss Crawley
Mrs. Calvert
522a
Robb

2b. CHANGES IN WEEKLY MARKET REVIEW.

Congestion on the leased wire, particularly the central circuit, makes it nesessary to reduce the text of the Weekly Market Review which will be sent hereafter over the central circuit to Cincinnati, Chicago and Kansas City. The price table also will be omitted. The text going over the southern circuit to Atlanta and other offices will not be abbreviated at this time, because that wire is not so crowded and because of the greater interest in truck crops throughout the South.

It is planned to write as much material as usual , and the full text of the Review and the price table will be stenciled and mimeographed for distribution to the 1,000 names on the Washington mailing list. About 9,000 copies from the Review stencils also are mailed to truck-crop reporters, cooperating with Crop Estimates. The full text will be printed regularly in the weekly issues of "Crops and Markets," along with the price table.

On next Tuesday, August 17, Cincinnati, Chicago and Kansas City should insert at the end of their editions of the Review a boxed notice to the following effect:-

> BEGINNING WITH THIS ISSUE, a change of policy has been adopted for the Weekly Market Review. The review as issued from this office will be shortened and will cover only the most important products. The weekly price table also will be omitted, at least for the present. The full text of the review, including the less important products, and the price table will still be published in the Washington mimeographed edition and in the weekly issues of "Crops and Markets." Anyone particularly desirous of receiving the weekly price table should so advise this office or the Washington office, and his name will be added to the mailing list for that feature of the report.

3b. TWO ADDITIONAL SUMMARIES:

COLORADO PEACH DEAL, Season of 1925, and COLORADO PEAR DEAL, Season of 1925, are two summaries written by J. D. Evers and distributed this week.

4b. SPECIAL PRUNE SERVICE IN IDAHO.

Following negotiations conducted through M. L. Dean, Director of the Idaho Bureau of Markets, prune shippers in Idaho have organized along lines similar to those of the shippers in the Walla Walla - Milton - Freewater district, as described in Par. 7b, D.L. for July 16. Mr. Prugh will spend Saturday in Boise, in conference with Mr. Dean and shippers, and a definite program will be worked out at that time. A detailed "confidential" report will be the feature of the service, but it is not certain whether regular market reports will be issued from Boise or whether the Portland reports will suffice. All expenses are to be borne by the shippers. Special arrangements will be perfected for an exchange of the detailed reports of quotations and sales between Walla Walla and Boise.

E. W. STILLWELL,
Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

Stations	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably will close
POCOMOKE CITY, MD.** Peninsula Bldg.	878	H. E. Rutland	Berries*	May 21	June 18*
			Potatoes*	June 14	Aug. 4*
			Cants.	Aug. 6	Aug. 21
			Sweets	Aug.16	Oct. 9
MACON, GA.**	833	R. L. Sutton	Peaches*	June 7	Aug. 10*
620 Bibb Bldg.	875		W-melons	July 21	Aug. 21
FRESNO, CALIF.** Sequoia Hotel	919	C..E. Schultz	Grapes	Aug..5	Nov. 10
GRAND JUNCTION, COLO.**	846	J. A. Hunter	Pears	Aug..10	Sept. 30
			Peaches	Aug. 17	Sept. 15
			Potatoes	Aug..10	Oct. 30
			Onions	Sept. 15	Oct. 30
			Apples	Sept. 15	Oct. 30
ROCKY FORD, COLO.	821	W. F. Cox	Cants.	Aug. 16	Sept. 25

The following stations may begin reports on dates indicated:

SPOKANE, WASH.	847	A. E. Prugh	Apples	Aug. 25	Mar. 31
BENTON HARBOR, MICH.**	838	R. H. Shoemaker	Pears	Sept. 1	Oct. 2
			Apples	Sept. 1	Oct. 2
			Grapes	Sept. 1	Oct. 2
			Potatoes	Sept. 1	Oct. 2
			Peaches	Sept. 15	Oct. 2
			Onions	Sept. 20	Oct. 2

The following station closes on date indicated:

ABERDEEN, N. C.**	935	R. H. Lamb	Peaches	July 12	Aug. 14

**State cooperating. *Reports discontinued.

R. H. Shoemaker on leave in Canada. W. G. Lensen at Pittsburgh office.
J. D. Evers on leave in Massachusetts. J. G. Scott on leave in Maryland.
R. H. Lamb on leave en route Kans.City A. E. Prugh at Walla Walla, Wash.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. REPORTING DECAY ON PRUNES.

In order to determine the relationship of tearing of the skin in the stem basin of prunes to decay in receiving market, inspectors are requested to note on all certificates covering this product not only the amount and character of the decay but whether it began at the stem end or on the side of the fruit. If possible, the certificate should also show whether decay started from torn skin or flesh in the stem basin.

2c. CORRECTION OF WASHINGTON STATE GRADES.

With the D.L. for July 23, each inspector was sent a copy of the booklet containing Washington State grades for apples and pears. Mr. Griner, of the Division of Horticulture, advises that, on page 9, lines 3 and 8, the words "no stings" should be cancelled. The specification covering this point is correct as it appears on page 5.

3c. MAINE POTATO INSPECTION PROSPECTS.

Following a recent trip to Aroostook County, Maine, C. M. White, Chief of the State Division of Markets, advised that shipping-point inspection of potatoes is desired this season at all points where inspectors were located last year and possibly at two additional stations. The crop is somewhat backward on account of the late planting and dry weather, but there is plenty of time to make a good crop, if the right weather conditions prevail from now on. It is not expected that the potatoes will move in any considerable volume before September 15.

4c. ROCKY FORD CANTALOUPE SITUATION.

In a letter of August 9, from Rocky Ford, Colo., N. D. Sanborn said that melon shipments from that region likely will be considerably heavier than last year. Late shipments will be especially active because of the necessity of replanting some of the acreage, after a destructive hail storm. Local factors believe that close to 5,000 cars will be shipped. As a whole, the crop promises to be above average in quality. Aphis and draught injuries are not very general and probably will not cause much loss. Hot dry weather is largely responsible for the better quality, as well as for the early season. The first car was loaded on August 6, and movement should be heavy by 20th.

Details of the inspection work will be much the same as last season. Mr. Sanborn says that they plan to use the sugar test as an aid in determining maturity of cantaloupes and Honey Dews. The minimum sugar test will be shown on certificates for all lots of Honey Dews, together with a description of quality and color, rather than attempt to follow any grade for this product. The same kind of car cards will be used as last year, and there will be the customary marking.

THE USUAL MONTHLY TABULATION OF CITY AND NAVY INSPECTIONS, FOR JULY, will be published in next Division Letter.

5c. CALIFORNIA GRAPE INSPECTION OUTLOOK.

Sam Preston, California cooperative inspector, in charge of the Fresno grape deal, presented the following important news in California Inspectors' Notes, dated August 6:

"The success of this season's grape inspection deal will be influenced by three important factors: First, abnormally early maturing of juice varieties; second, lack of cash buyers with cash, and third, the skeptical attitude of eastern receivers who are reluctant to become interested or to make advance contracts for a season's supply.

"The early maturing of juice varieties will necessitate getting the grapes off the vines quickly to prevent heavy losses from raisining and drying. On this account, they will be too early to meet the maximum demand for juice grapes in the East, which is usually during October and November. Zinfandels, Alicantes, Carignanes and other grapes of this type do not appear as though they will keep in condition, if left on the vines that late.

"Several cars of blacks were inspected this week, with heavy raisining already in evidence, one lot enough to affect grade. In most cases the grapes are maturing at least 15 days earlier than normal, and many instances are noted where the grapes are a month in advance. This is especially true of Muscats, and several growers state that this variety will be ready to ship or put on trays early this month.

"It is certain that more tonnage will be dried this year than last season, but when it is taken into consideration that between 10,000 and 15,000 cars were left on the vines last year, there still seems to be a possibility that about the same tonnage will be available for shipment, or more than 75,000 cars. The general feeling will nave to change and market conditions will have to show a brighter outlook than at present before shippers and growers will attempt this volume of grape movement.

"Many of the Old Timers predict that this season will be short and snappy and, if this is true, it will tax the resources of the inspection force to handle the deal to the best advantage. Especially so, if it develops that the bulk of the movement will be early.

Revised Grades More Satisfactory.

"The revised table grape grades seem to be much more satisfactory in all respects than those in use last year. The change in color classifications of white grapes applies more favorably to the Thompsons. We are describing the general run of color on Fancy and U. S. No.1, by giving the approximate percentages of amber or straw-colored berries, instead of using the grade terms 'well colored' and 'fairly well colored.' We use general terms in giving the 'light green color' and 'green color' berries in the remaining stock. This helps to indicate the variance in quality, especially in the grapes which only grade No.1. Table.

"Out of the total inspections todate only one car has been certified U. S. Fancy. Several cars of Malagas failed to meet No.1 because of straggly bunches or stock loose at capstems, etc. The increasing of the sugar test to a 20% minimum improves the grades with respect to Malagas, Thompsons and Muscats, giving a strong argument in cases where the shipper insists on Fancy grade.

(continued on next page)

"Most of the few cars of juice grapes inspected last week failed to grade, careless handling of Zinfandels and excess of raisining and poor color in Carignanes being the main defects. This season's policy of stating the percentage of 'well colored berries' in black and red juice varieties is a great improvement over the previous general terms 'well colored' and 'fairly weLl colored.' This percentage is given under the color statement in the quality and condition paragraph. This helps the inspector to determine whether the stock meets color requirements and enables the reader of an off-grade certificate to picture the exact condition of the grapes.

"We have inspected a much larger portion of the shipments so far this season, especially of shipments of table stock. This and the early season accounts for the fact that 332 cars were inspected up to July 31, compared with 122 cars to the same date last year. About 155 cars were inspected last week. In both instances these are grapes, with the exception of a few peaches.

"Greater confidence is being manifested in Federal-State inspection than during any previous season, even by certain buyers who have always stood on their own ability and judgment in seledting grapes. It is almost certain that the percentage of total shipments certified will be greater this year, and the total volume of grape inspections will depend on the saturation factor of the entire grape movement."

6c. SEND REVISIONS FOR ADDRESS LIST AT ONCE.

With this D.L. the men in charge of inspection offices will receive a post-card on wnich to report immediately any additions or corrections to the last address list of inspection offices, dated Jan. 15, 1926. Please actually examine your copy of the last list before filling in the card. It is planned to issue a revised list as soon as all replies are received.

7c. IMPORTANT NOTE REGARDING LOUISIANA INSPECTIONS.

C. R. Newton , Supervising Inspector at Baton Rouge, advises that, in addressing mail to him or in making any reference on certificates or otherwise to Louisiana shipping-point inspections, CARE should be taken NOT to use the term "State Department of Agriculture." His proper mail address is P. O. Box 6C8, Baton Rouge, La., and the inspection work is conducted under auspices of the Agricultural Extension Service. If any office has an addressograph plate for Mr. Newton, bearing the words: "State Department of Agriculture," please correct it at once, as his mail thereby goes to that Department and frequently is opened there, when it should be opened by him personally or in his own office at Baton Rouge.

8c. RECORD OF SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTIONS, 1925-26.

Shipping-point inspection work was conducted in 35 States during the fiscal year, ended June 30, 1926. In 23 States there was an increase over the preceding year and in 12 States there was a decrease, while Nevada and South Dakota, on account of crop conditions, did not use the service at all. The total number of inspections was 165,529, a net increase of 34,442 cars over the fiscal year 1925. The greatest increase in any one State was in California, due largely to the heavier inspections of grapes. Grape inspections there totaled 18,783 cars in 1924-25 and 36,069 cars in 1925-26. Detailed figures by States and for four years are given on next page:-

SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTIONS DURING FOUR FISCAL YEARS:

	1922-23	1923-24	1924-25	1925-26
Alabama	-	251	-	-
Arizona	-	300*	4*	646*
Arkansas	-	88	528	1274
California	17778	46424	37517	52277
Colorado	24815	10341	14086	18739
Delaware	-	50	108	440
Florida	162	8370	10710	3840
Georgia	45	1392	7810	2014
Idaho	13338	18403	11366	17177
Illinois	-	208	269	202
Indiana	-	551*	631	1623
Iowa	-	-	229*	790*
Kansas	-	855*	1420	397
Louisiana	-	266	273	566
Maine	384	-	105	2073
Maryland	-	-	549	1373
Massachusetts	67	7	-	-
Michigan	-	-	730	59*
Mississippi	-	1709	336	436
Missouri	36	204*	584	19
Montana	444	305	115	340
Nebraska	-	4830	2835	526
Nevada	-	34	23	-
New Jersey	1499	719	669	396
New York	905	1475	1685	2339
North Carolina	-	566	2707	4937
North Dakota	432	-	-	-
Ohio	78	169	662	227
Oklahoma	-	-	1038	531
Oregon	387	4442	4128	5808
Pennsylvania	-	274	203	348
South Carolina	1091	1712	1082	184
South Dakota	308	368	188	-
Tennessee	51	232	134	229
Texas	-	6349	8289	12510
Utah	651	1642	1518	1318
Virginia	4	526	2099	2942
Washington	8917	15360	14980	25062
West Virginia	39	232	317	1091
Wisconsin	1035	2305	1460	2796
TOTAL	72466	130959	131087	165529

*All of the above inspections were made under cooperative agreements with the various States, with the exception of those marked with a star. In these States shipping-point inspections were made as straight Federal inspections.

Of the total of 165,529 cars inspected at shipping points, there were 225 reinspections made at receiving markets, 106 of which sustained the original inspection.

REINSPECTIONS IN RECEIVING MARKETS AND RESULTS THEREOF:

The period indicated at top of each column is a fiscal year ending in June of the year marked.

State of Origin	Reinspections Requested				Original Report Sustained				Original Report Reversed			
	1923	1924	1925	1926	1923	1924	1925	1926	1923	1924	1925	1926
Alabama	-	0	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	0	-	-
Arizona	-	0	-	1	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	1
Arkansas	-	0	1	1	-	0	1	1	-	0	0	0
California	20	76	65	54	8	37	25	16	12	39	40	38
Colorado	7	10	23	18	5	9	7	8	2	1	16	10
Delaware	-	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	-	0	0	0
Florida	0	22	26	6	0	13	13	4	0	9	13	2
Georgia	0	0	2	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0
Idaho	18	27	8	22	5	5	4	10	13	22	4	12
Illinois	-	0	2	0	-	0	0	0	-	0	2	0
Indiana	-	3	6	6	-	2	4	4	-	1	2	2
Iowa	-	-	1	0	-	-	1	0	-	-	0	0
Kansas	-	1	0	1	-	1	0	0	-	0	0	1
Louisiana	-	0	1	0	-	0	1	0	-	0	0	0
Maine	0	-	0	10	0	-	0	4	0	-	0	6
Maryland	-	-	0	4	-	-	0	2	-	-	0	2
Massachusetts	0	0	-	-	0	0	-	-	0	0	-	-
Michigan	-	-	0	0	-	-	0	0	-	-	0	0
Mississippi	-	2	1	1	-	1	0	1	-	1	1	0
Missouri	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Montana	0	2	0	2	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1
Nebraska	-	2	9	3	-	0	2	0	-	2	7	3
Nevada	-	0	0	-	-	0	0	-	-	0	0	-
New Jersey	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
New York	2	13	11	17	1	2	5	9	1	11	6	8
North Carolina	-	0	5	5	-	0	3	2	-	0	2	3
North Dakota	3	-	0	-	1	-	0	-	2	-	0	-
Ohio	0	0	6	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	3	1
Oklahoma	-	-	4	0	-	-	0	0	-	-	4	0
Oregon	0	3	5	13	0	2	4	7	0	1	1	6
Pennsylvania	-	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	-	0	0	0
South Carolina	3	23	7	0	1	16	1	0	2	7	6	0
South Dakota	0	1	0	-	0	0	0	-	0	1	0	-
Tennessee	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Texas	-	17	25	13	-	14	10	7	-	3	15	6
Utah	0	11	6	5	0	8	5	2	0	3	1	3
Virginia	0	5	2	3	0	3	0	2	0	2	2	1
Washington	6	17	37	28	5	12	25	21	1	5	12	7
West Virginia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wisconsin	2	4	2	10	1	3	0	4	1	1	2	6
TOTALS	61	239	257	225	27	129	116	106	34	110	141	119

SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTIONS BY PRODUCTS, FISCAL YEAR 1925-26:

FRUITS:		VEGETABLES CONT'D.:	
Apples	31493	Carrots	532
Apricots	67	Casabas	26
Cherries	386	Cauliflower	2326
Cranberries	10	Celery	1850
Grapes	36200	Chicory	56
Grapefruit	348	Corn	458
Lemons	6	Cucumbers	176
Oranges	876	Garlic	53
Peaches	5732	Honey Dews	1112
Pears	3174	Lettuce-Romaine-Endive	7530
Pineapples	5	Onions	10850
Plums	991	Parsley	16
Quinces	1	Peas	113
Strawberries	900	Peppers	65
Other Berries	356	Potatoes	40087
Tangerines	43	Rhubarb	2
Mixed Citrus	317	Rutabagas	2
Mixed Fruits	194	Spinach	180
Mixed Fruits and Vegetables	33	Squash	4
Total	81132	Sweet Potatoes	342
Walnuts	28	Tomatoes	3897
VEGETABLES:		Turnips	14
Artichokes	59	Watermelons	296
Asparagus	61	Mixed Vegetables	4134
Beans	333	Mixed Melons	1006
Beets	62	Total	84369
Cabbage	4845		
Cantaloupes	3882	GRAND TOTAL	165529

9c. PEACH INSPECTIONS.

Peach inspection work in southern Pennsylvania and western Maryland probably will start about August 23. It is planned tentatively to place E. W. Copeland, a licensee who is now working on Tennessee peaches, in charge of the office at Hancock, Md., this work to be supervised from Washington.

10c. BULLETIN ON MARKETING APPLES.

The Federal-State inspection service is discussed, among other matters, in a new bulletin on "Marketing of Apples," published by the West Virginia State Department of Agriculture, at Charleston. Authors are Ross B. Johnston and H. B. Davis. Directions are given for packing and loading apples in different types of containers.

ROBERT BIER,
Supervising Inspector.

TEMPORARY HEADQUARTERS OF SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION DEALS.

State	Federal Supervisor	Products	Approx. date of Opening	Approx. date of Closing
IOWA:	C. D. Shirley, St. Ansgar, Ia.	Onions	Aug. 16	Sept. 30
INDIANA:	F. M. Lyle, County Agent's Office, Vincennes, Ind.	Apples	July 12	Oct. 15
		Tomatoes*	July 15	Aug. 5*
		Cantaloupes*	July 25	Aug. 7*
		Peaches	Aug. 20	Sept. 15
DELAWARE:	F. S. Zimmerman, State Bureau of Mkts., Dover, Del.	Apples*	July 5	Aug. 4*
		Peaches	Aug. 14	Aug. 31
		Grapes	Aug. 23	Sept. 15
COLORADO:	N. D. Sanborn, A. S. Mason, Rocky Ford, Colo.	Cantaloupes	Aug. 9	Sept. 30
ARKANSAS:	J. A. Marks, Springdale, Ark.	Grapes	Aug. 16	Sept. 4
The following stations closed about date indicated:				
OKLAHOMA:	H. T. Longino, State Mkt. Commission, Oklahoma City, Okla.	Potatoes	June 1	July 10
		Tomatoes	July 5	July 17
		Cantaloupes	July 19	July 31
		Watermelons	Aug. 2	Aug. 14
KANSAS:	A. S. Mason, Topeka, Kans	Potatoes	July 5	Aug. 14
The following station may open about date indicated:				
WEST VIRGINIA:	J. J. Gardner, Martinsburg, W. Va.	Apples	Aug. 30	Oct. 30

* Service completed on products marked with star.

H. T. Longino returned to Chicago. J.C. Townsend, Jr., to New York City.

STANDARDIZATION AND RESEARCH

ld. CHECK LIST OF U.S. GRADES FOR FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.

In order that every inspector may know whether or not he has a copy of the latest revision of each of the grades, the following check list is given:

Apples, barreled	July 10, 1926
Artichokes	Feb. 10, 1926
Asparagus	Nov. 27, 1925
Beans, string (wax or green)	April 3, 1924
Beets, bunched	April 22, 1924
Cabbage	Oct. 1, 1924
Cantaloupes	April 13, 1926
Carrots, bunched	April 21, 1925
Cauliflower	Dec. 10, 1925
Celery	Jan. 6, 1925
Cherries, sweet	June 2, 1926
Citrus fruits	Dec. 11, 1924
Corn, green	April 23, 1926
Cucumbers	Feb. 7, 1922
Dewberries and Blackberries	May 29, 1926
Eggplant	April 14, 1925
Grapes, American, (Eastern type) bunch	May 12, 1926
Grapes, juice	June 19, 1926
Grapes, table	June 19, 1926
Grapes, sawdust-pack	June 19, 1926
Lettuce	June 26, 1926
Onions, Bermuda	Aug. 10, 1925
Onions, northern-grown	June 26, 1925
Onions, Creole	May 6, 1926.
Peaches	May 5, 1924.
Peanuts, farmers' stock	Sept. 30, 1925.
Peanuts, white Spanish	July 26, 1925
Peanuts, runner	July 26, 1925
Pears	July 28, 1926
Peas, fresh	May 6, 1926
Peppers, sweet	Nov. 19, 1923
Pineapples	March 31, 1924
Potatoes	July 1922
Plums and Prunes	July 8, 1926
Radishes, bunched	Feb. 25, 1926
Spinach	Aug. 14, 1925
Strawberries	April 7, 1926
Sweet Potatoes	May 12, 1926
Tomatoes, canning	March 1, 1926
Tomatoes, fresh	March 11, 1925
Turnips, bunched	April 22, 1924
Watermelons	Aug. 12, 1925

R. R. PAILTHORP,
Marketing Specialist.

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Robb began two weeks' vacation last Monday morning, when he started by automobile for Springdale, Ark. He had reached Cambridge, Ohio, a distance of 316 miles, by Monday evening.

The four members of the inspectors' training class, which finishes its course this week, will be assigned as follows: R. H. VonGlahn returns at once to Jacksonville, Fla., to continue his inspection work on express shipments, etc. K.W. Schaible and H. L. Harrington go to New York City to assist with inspections there. E.F. Willson reports for duty in Atlanta, where he will handle the market news work and assist with inspections. Mr. Hoover, of the Atlanta office, will devote most of this time to inspections.

F. S. Kinsey, who has been handling the Jacksonville assignment for several weeks, will proceed to Richmond, Va., for a conference with F. E. Parsons and J. H. Meek, preparatory to taking charge of the apple-inspection deal in the western part of Virginia this season.

En route to Indianapolis, O. G. Strauss stopped at Chicago and gave a talk to the training class regarding the citrus grades as applied in Florida.

W. C. Hackleman, of the New York office, went to Cleveland, to get first-hand information on the railroad inspection work there, and to Chicago, where he also assisted in instructing the inspectors' training class. From August 6 to 16, Mr. Hackleman was on leave at Knightstown, Ind. He returns to New York by next Tuesday. W. V. Stephens will then begin his period of annual leave.

Following Mr. Behnke's resignation, it was decided to send J. E. Dickerson to Wenatchee, Wash., to act as supervising inspector in that district. Mr. Dickerson is from the Northwest and therefore is familiar with local conditions. He left Vincennes, Ind., this week; returned for a day or two to his former headquarters at Cincinnati, and then will start at once for Wenatchee. His address there will be County Court House.

F. M. Lyle, who was handling the inspection work at New Orleans, has gone to Vincennes, to take over the duties of Mr. Dickerson. G. W. Winfrey is in charge at New Orleans.

J. A. Marks expects to leave Pittsburgh by the end of this week and proceed to Springdale, Ark., where he will handle grape inspections.

B. B. Jones, formerly a member of our F. & V. Division and more recently on the Wisconsin State staff, with headquarters at Madison, has resigned to accept a position as Secretary of the Agricultural Bureau of the New Orleans Association of Commerce.

D. M. James, of the Harrisburg office, should be addressed at 586 Lincoln Way, East, Chambersburg, Pa., after August 20. Mr. James will make Chambersburg his headquarters during the inspection deal on peaches and apples in that section of the State. He anticipates that 300 cars of peaches may be inspected and possibly 700 or 800 cars of apples.

OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

After returning from Virginia next week, Edwin Smith will make preparations for his return to England. He plans to sail August 25 on the S.S. President Harding, and will again make the American Embassy, London, his headquarters.

For the next few weeks, mail for Wm. E. Lewis can be addressed to General Delivery, Salisbury, Md. Mr. Lewis will be at different points on the Eastern Shore, handling the inspection work on cannery tomatoes.

W. J. Bertush has returned to the Chicago office, after helping with inspections in Pittsburgh and New York.

A. S. Mason has completed his supervision of Kaw Valley potato inspections and will proceed to Rocky Ford, Colo., where he will assist N. D. Sanborn in the supervision of work on cantaloupes.

R. H. Lamb has been assigned to take permanent charge of the market reporting work in Kansas City. He completed his service at Aberdeen, N. C., this week and will drive by automobile to Kansas City, taking part of his leave en route. He will supersede G. D. Clark in that market the latter part of August. Mr. Clark will take leave and then be given a field assignment.

Mrs. L. B. Gerry, of the Spokane office, started issuing the confidential f.o.b. report on apples August 5. The first bulletin covers the sale of a large number of cars, and shows a general range of $1.25-$1.50 per box on Extra Fancy, medium to large, Jonathans, Newtowns, etc., and a range of $2.50-2.75 on Delicious. The regular apple reports may be started about August 25.

M. L. Henry, of the New York staff, has been assigned to temporary duty at the Government Landing, Newport, R. I., where supplies are to be inspected for the Scouting Fleet from now until September 15. This work is in connection with the Naval Training Station at Newport.

F. E. Bailey has begun a new series of News Letters for inspectors in the State of Washington. Vol. 1, No.1 of the Washington (State) Inspection Letter was issued from Mr. Bailey's office, at Yakima, on August 2. It resembles the Division Letter very much in appearance and size.

The editor has learned of leave of the following additional members of the technical staff: Frederick Wolfarth, of the New York force, is on leave from August 13 to 31; A. W. Moloney, also a New York inspector, completes his two weeks' vacation next Monday, and W. F. Plummer, of the New Haven office, will be absent from August 23 to September 7.

NOTE: When any special activities or movements of personnel occur in YOUR office, won't you please advise the editor of the D.L., in case he fails to publish the news by learning of it from another source?

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER VOL. 7, NO. 34.
August 20, 1926.
(Contents Confidential)

1a. ATTENTION ALL F. & V. EMPLOYEES: (Important)

Justice Bailey, of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, dismissed on August 12 the petition filed by Leonard, Crosset & Riley and the S. A. Gerrard Company, of Cincinnati, Ohio, asking that the Secretary be enjoined and restrained from putting into effect the plans outlined in Service and Regulatory Announcements No. 97. The proposed form of contract was immediately forwarded to the Public Printer and the second proof has been received. The contracts, therefore, are expected to be in our hands within the next few days, ready for distribution and signature.

We shall mail two copies to each of the 2,000 and more shippers and handlers, who have notified us that they intend to sign the contract. We shall also send a supply of these contract forms to each of our permanent branch offices and temporary field stations. These are likely to reach you before the next Division Letter is received. We do not wish the members of our force to do any soliciting, but we do want every shipper, receiver or broker who handles any fresh fruits or vegetables in carload lots to have an opportunity to sign this contract, if he so desires. Hence the following instructions:

MARKET NEWS MEN, after receipt of the forms, should place a notice on their daily reports, or on a separate sheet to be enclosed, as follows:

"NOTICE:- This office has received from Washington a supply of blank contract forms, to be executed by shippers or handlers of fresh fruits or vegetables in wholesale quantities, who desire to operate in accordance with the recommended U. S. Standard Trading Rules, which are set forth in this contract. A symbol and registration number, which may be used on business stationery, will be furnished by the Department to everyone who signs this contract. The Department will publish a list of those who agree to cooperate in this way in the promotion of approved standard practices in the conduct of the fruit and vegetable business. There are no fees or charges incident to signing this contract, which must be executed in duplicate. Copies will be furnished by this office upon request or they can be obtained direct from the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Washington, D. C.

"The first list of those who have signed the contract will be published after fair opportunity has been given everyone to secure a place thereon."

Field station plates, in storage at any market station, should also be circularized with this notice, mimeographed on a separate sheet of paper. For example: Boston should circularize the Presque Isle list; Fort Worth should send the notice to all names on field station lists stored at Fort Worth, etc. The object is to reach as many individuals as possible.

(Continued over)

INSPECTORS, especially in offices where no market news bulletin is published, should use every means available to convey to the trade the information quoted on the preceding page.

FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS: Be sure that everyone to whom you give these contracts understands that two copies must be dated and signed and either handed to you or mailed to this office. Please try to make the applicant understand that the separate sheet which describes his business is to be filled out in some detail. If a dealer or firm is operating in several different capacities as commission merchant and jobber, or commission merchant and carlot buyer, or as a commission merchant and broker, we would like to know the relative importance of these different lines.

WELLS A. SHERMAN,
Specialist in Charge,
Fruit and Vegetable Division.

2a.-

FIRST REPORTS ON FLORIDA GRAPES:

W. H. Stanton, of the New York office, is the first to send a report on Florida grapes, as requested in Par. 1a of last week's Division Letter. He states that one car of these grapes arrived in New York on August 4 and another car on the 12th. They sold respectively at 65¢ and at 35¢ per four-basket crate, holding about 20 pounds. The market was well supplied with California grapes, and this Florida stock, therefore, did not sell to advantage. Freight, and refrigeration, it is understood, cost about 90¢ per package. A third car, due to arrive in New York about August 15, was diverted to Boston.

Condition of the Florida grapes was generally good, and little fault could be found as to the package, pack, etc. However, the Florida product does not seem to be high-class and it compares unfavorably with the best eastern or western grapes. The variety name given to the New York arrivals is Carman (or Carmen). In general, it resembles the eastern Concord, though the color is not quite so dark and the berries are not so large, on the average. Each grape contains three to five rather large seeds, which makes this type somewhat undesirable for table use. One receiver expressed the opinion that the Florida grapes are distinctly of the juice type; that they need not be packed so carefully in baskets and crates, and that they should be sold for juice purposes.

H. S. Stiles, of Boston, wrote on August 18 concerning the Florida grapes which arrived in that market on the 16th. He gave these additional facts: The car contained 895 crates. The package is very much like the California grape crate , except that the individual baskets are made of medium-weight cardboard instead of thin wood and there is no bulge to the crate. As a result of nailing lids flat, the grapes were crushed and bruised and did not present an attractive appearance. This shipment sold at auction in Boston at 85¢ to 90¢ per crate, average about 85¢.

THE PEAR CROP this year, according to August estimates, is about 25% heavier than last season. The Weekly Review, dated August 17, was incorrect in its opening paragraph, when implying that the crop was not quite so large.

3a. CHANGE IN FORM OF SALARY VOUCHER.

The use of the blue Form-3 voucher for the submission of salaries of a miscellaneous nature was discontinued on July 1. In its place, we are required to use the standard short-form payroll, 1013-d, with copy 1013-e. This latter form is now being used by most of our field offices for the regular payroll. Form-3 vouchers, submitted since July, have been made over on the standard form in Washington. Hereafter, however, it will be necessary to return any voucher submitted on Form-3 to the originating office for correction. Forms 1013-d and 1013-e may be secured upon supply requisition from Washington.

4a. NEW BULLETIN ON F. & V. COOPERATIVE ORGANIZATIONS.

"Management Problems of Cooperative Associations Marketing Fruits and Vegetables" is the title of Dept. Bulletin No. 1414, which has just come from the press. Authors are A. W. McKay and W.J. Kuhrt, of the Division of Agricultural Cooperation. This bulletin should be of interest to many members of our F. & V. staff, as it covers nearly every phase of organization and management of growers' associations. "Too Many Varieties," "Packing, Storage and Grading Difficulties," "Transportation Difficulties," "Pooling," "Distributing Agencies," and "Advertising" are a few of the chapter headings. Copies of the bulletin can be had from the Division of Information in this Bureau.

5a. ARKANSAS PEACH BULLETIN.

"Production Costs and Market Distribution of Arkansas Peaches," is the title of Bulletin No. 207, published by the Arkansas Agricultural Experiment Station, at Fayetteville, Ark., The author is O. O. Brannen, and copies doubtless can be obtained by writing to the Station.

6a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR AUGUST 14:

Page 101 - Peach Supplies Heavy; Prices Low. (weekly review)
102 - Market News Service Extended.
103 - Florida Citrus Handled Efficiently.
- Many Inspections in City Markets. (record for year 1925-26)
104 - Many Different Products Inspected. (record for year 1925-26)
- Handling California Dried Apricots.
- Many Supplies Bought for Fruit Growers.
- Potato Crop Sold for $2,000,000.
- Cauliflower Growers Organizing.
112 - Georgia Peaches in London.
- Canadian Farmers Want Seasonal Tariff.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. REPORTS STARTED ON GRAPES AND SWEET POTATOES.

On Monday, August 16, mimeographed market reports were started in Washington on grapes and sweet potatoes.

2b. WESTERN SLOPE OF COLORADO CROP CONDITIONS.

In a letter of August 9, written after he had driven through the territory with the local inspector, J. A. hunter gave the following information on conditions at Western Slope of Colorado points:

Onions.

The 250 acres of Bermuda onions which were planted this year turned out very unsatisfactorily, with average yield of only 225 crates per acre. Total movement was around 50 carloads. Prices were low. The crop was mostly consigned and returns to growere were about 90¢ a crate. Crates cost 30¢, thus leaving only 60¢ to cover cost of plants, growing, harvesting and preparing for market. The Mountain Danvers, of which 1,500 cars are expected, should start moving about September 10. One man has bought 100 carloads at $1.00 per 100 pounds, delivered at his packing shed. Recent rains have been beneficial, but lice have been injuring the crop to some extent.

Potatoes.

The Fruita potato crop was finisned and movement was just beginning in the Delta-Olathe-Montrose section. Yields of early stock, which is about 40% of the district's tonnage, are much lower than a year ago, around 60 sacks to the acre, as against 100 sacks in 1925. Quality is reported to be very good. The main crop, which moves in September and October, is in satisfactory condition, and good average yields are expected. The local trade is more optimistic regarding markets for potatoes than for any other crop.

Pears.

Fruit prospects in the Palisade and Clifton sections are much better than last year. Quality is exceptional. There is no worm injury to date, and showers helped materially. Some concern has been expressed over the carrying quality of pears, on account of the necessity of wiping the fruit free of spray residue. However, all the fruit is being wiped carefully. Most of the Bartletts were expected to move during the second and third weeks of August. Bushel baskets are in better demand than boxes, although quite a few boxes are being packed with fancy fruit, with sizes averaging mostly 165 to 190. Kieffer pear movement is not expected before September 3 or 5.

Peaches.

Elberta peach shipments may run as high as 1,000 or 1,100 cars. The quality and condition of this fruit are exceptional. Shipments should begin about August 18 and reach their peak around the 25th. Both bushel and box packs will be made, and all No.1 fruit will be over 2¼ inch minimum.

Apples.

Jonathans apples are expected around September 10 or 15, with heaviest shipments between the 20th and 30th, mostly from Paonia, Hotchkiss, Austin and the Cedar Edge section of Delta County. The fruit to date is in good condition and the crop fully up to normal.

3b. ILLINOIS PEACH DEAL IN FULL SWING.

The following letter, dated August 17, was received from W. H. Hall, of the Chicago office:

"Illinois has the largest crop of peaches in its history. Conservative authorities place probable shipments at 2,600 cars, while some think shipments may exceed 3,000 cars. I made a trip to the principal producing sections last week and found the crop in pretty good shape, although hail early last week did some damage to scattered orchards in the Centralia section. Thus far very little decay has developed and the stock will average good size. The Union-Johnson county section (also known as the Egyptian section) started shipping Elbertas about August 6, but shipments were comparatively light until Saturday, when they suddenly jumped to 67 cars. The heaviest previous day's movement was 7 cars. The peak movement from this section will occur around August 20, and shipments should be about over by the 28th or 30th. The other section, ordinarily known as the Centralia section, will start about August 20, with peak movement around the 28th.

"Southern Illinois is fast becoming one of the leading fruit producing sections, this being particularly true of peaches and apples. While no figures are available on either the bearing or nonbearing acreage, the impression obtained in passing through is that the nonbearing acreage of peaches is fully as large as the bearing acreage, and they are still planting orchards everywhere. Most of the farms, especially those in the extreme southern part of the State, are or have been poor, run-down farms, on which the growers have made little or nothing above a living. The introduction by County Agents of scientific methods of fruit growing is fast transforming these farms into profitable fruit areas. Last year Illinois peaches and apples found their way into more than 100 markets. A large percentage went to southern markets, Florida and Texas being the largest consumers of Illinois peaches. This year it is expected that the distribution will be greatly increased."

4b. COLORADO LETTUCE AND POTATOES.

The uncertainties of the lettuce situation in southern and western Colorado have made it practically impossible to give dependable estimates of the car-lot movement. Wendell Calhoun, of the Denver office, advises that the San Luis Valley fields "blew up" again, and there will be comparatively little movement from that section until new fields come on next week. Daily shipments are falling short of previous estimates. Quality of the lettuce is improving, however, and the market has a firmer tone.

"The first car of potatoes moved out of the San Luis Valley on August 10," continues Mr. Calhoun, "and movement will be fairly steady from now on. The first car was Cobblers, the second car Early Six Week, and the third car Bliss Triumphs. Size was good and quality fair."

5b. NEW YORK PEAR DEAL SUMMARIZED.

MARKETING WESTERN NEW YORK PEARS, SEASON OF 1925, by A. E. Prugh, is a new summary distributed this week from Washington. Copies are available on request.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

Stations	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably will close
POCOMOKE CITY, MD.** Peninsula Bldg.	878	H. E. Rutland	Berries*	May 21	June 18*
			Potatoes*	June 14	Aug. 4*
			Cants.*	Aug. 6	Aug. 14*
			Sweets	Aug. 16	Oct. 9
FRESNO. CALIF.** Sequoia Hotel	919	C. E. Schultz	Grapes	Aug. 5	Nov. 10
GRAND JUNCTION, COLO** Chamber of Commerce MAIL:.P. O. Box 300	846	J. A. Hunter	Pears	Aug. 10	Sept. 30
			Potatoes	Aug. 10	Oct. 30
			Peaches	Aug. 17	Sept. 15
			Onions	Sept.10	Oct. 30
			Apples	Sept.10	Oct. 30
ROCKY FORD, COLO.	821	W. F. Cox	Cants.	Aug. 17	Sept. 25
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	Mrs.L. B. Gerry	Apples	Aug. 23	Mar. 31

The following station may begin reports on date indicated:

BENTON HARBOR, MICH.**	838	R. H. Shoemaker	Pears	Sept. 1	Oct. 2
			Apples	Sept. 1	Oct. 2
			Grapes	Sept. 1	Oct. 2
			Potatoes	Sept. 1	Oct. 2
			Peaches	Sept. 15	Oct. 2
			Onions	Sept. 20	Oct. 2

The following station closed on date indicated:

MACON, GA.** 620 Bibb Bldg.	833	R. L. Sutton	Peaches	June 7	Aug. 10
	875		W-melons	July 21	Aug. 19

**State cooperating *Reports discontinued.

R. H. Shoemaker in Chicago office.
J. D. Evers on leave in Massachusetts.
R. H. Lamb on leave en route Kans. City.
R. L. Sutton in Washington office.
W. G. Lensen in New York office
J. G. Scott in Philadelphia office.
A. E. Prugh at Walla Walla, Wash.

6b. SUMMARY ON NORTHEAS-TERN SWEET POTATOES.

SWEET-POTATO SEASON 1925, NEW JERSEY-DELAWARE-MARYLAND-VIRGINIA is the title of a very complete summary just issued by E. R. Biddle, of the Philadelphia office. Copies can be obtained from Mr. Biddle or from Wash.

E. W. STILLWELL,
Specialist in Market News

INSPECTIONS FOR THE NAVY AND MARINE CORPS DURING JULY, 1926

SYMBOLS N - NAVY M - MARINE CORPS	ALL FIGURES IN THESE COLUMNS REPRESENT POUNDS				
	Fruits and Vegetables PASSED	Fruits and Vegetables REJECTED	TOTAL QUANTITY INSPECTED	"Cuts" Made to Comply with Specifi-cations	Items Billed Short-weight
STATIONS	N M	N M	N M	N M	N M
BOSTON	NO REPORT RECEIVED FOR JULY				
NEW YORK	240704 56633	4964 404	245668 57037	224 27	0 0
NORFOLK	NO SHIPS LOADED AT NORFOLK DURING MONTH OF JULY				
PHILADELPHIA	530241 32562	33366 140	563607 32702	3923 227	0 0
SAN DIEGO	NO REPORT RECEIVED FOR JULY				
SAN FRANCISCO	61523 0	485 0	62008 0	0 0	0 0
SAN PEDRO	OFFICE CLOSED DURING JULY AND AUGUST				
VALLEJO	228982 41354	15658 1993	244640 43347	29 0	0 0
WASHINGTON	60746 0	340 0	61086 0	0 0	0 0
TOTALS	1122196 130549	54813 2537	1177009 133086	4176 254	0 0
INSPECTIONS MADE FOR U. S. SHIPPING BOARD					
NEW YORK	26107	4852	30959	0	0
NORFOLK	31659	25	31684	0	0
TOTAL	57766	4877	62643	0	0

The New York office also inspected the following:

	Vegetables	Fruits	Rejected
For the United States Lines	420666	222428	8826
United American Lines	- -	57336	2247
Munson Line	77703	28317	915
American France Line	8723	2660	75
American Diamond Line	9493	2863	3272
American Merchant Line	19249	6048	- -
	535834	319652	15335

The Vallejo office also inspected the following for the Navy: 37315 lbs. bread and 60 lbs. rolls.

RECEIVING-POINT INSPECTIONS DURING JULY, 1926.

Markets	Total Inspections	Total Same Month 1925	Inspections for Carriers	Declined for Lack of Time	Total Fees
Atlanta	47	77	8	0	$ 193.00
Baltimore	49	24	30	0	196.00
Boston	245	239	112	12	1006.00
Buffalo	97	67	30	0	372.50
Chicago	225	226	0	13	979.00
Cincinnati	63	47	28	0	268.00
Cleveland	168	292	88	0	951.50
Columbus	60	44	0	2	236.50
Denver	26	16	2	0	104.50
Detroit	295	202	68	0	1274.50
Harrisburg	13	-	8	1	56.00
Indianapolis	73	42	17	0	296.00
Jacksonville	36	-	5	0	141.00
Kansas City	55	62	7	0	225.00
Los Angeles	6	2	0	0	22.50
Memphis	38	21	22	0	152.00
Milwaukee	84	78	41	0	308.50
Minneapolis	36	27	0	0	145.00
Newark	44	29	9	0	174.50
New Haven	70	50	15	3	304.00
New Orleans	80	83	45	0	303.00
New York	724	604	414	0	2971.75
Norfolk	17	20	7	0	72.50
Omaha	35	39	12	0	136.50
Philadelphia	202	112	122	0	809.50
Pittsburgh	322	285	42	16	1359.50
Portland	39	16	0	0	152.50
St. Louis	122	85	47	0	547.00
Salt Lake City	2	7	0	0	8.00
San Francisco	3	-	2	0	12.00
Washington	10	21	1	0	61.50
Wilkes-Barre	44	25	22	2	186.50
Total	3330	2842	1204	49	$ 14026.75

NOTE:- This is the highest record ever made in July. The previous high mark was reached in July, 1924, when there were 3271 inspections.

1c. COPIES DESIRED ON NEW JERSEY POTATOES.

Copies of certificates issued by receiving markets on any New Jersey potatoes which were inspected at shipping point should be sent promptly to W. C. Lynn, State Bureau of Markets, Trenton, N. J.

ROBERT BIER,
Supervising Inspector.

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Pailthorp expects to go to Cornelia, Ga., next Tuesday, where he will address the Georgia State Horticultural Society on the grading and packing of boxed apples. He will also confer with peanut shellers and other interested persons regarding the interpretation of the U.S. grades for peanuts. Mr. Pailthorp probably will be back in Washington by the 28th.

G. A. Dehaven returned to the Washington office a few days ago and left again last evening for Boston. He plans to visit Bureau representatives and State and municipal officials in that city and probably in Rochester, Cincinnati, Detroit, Benton Harbor, Chicago and Pittsburgh, in order to obtain more complete information on the movement of produce by truck. This trip may require two or three weeks' time.

J. G. Cross, Specialist in Transportation, had reached New Orleans by Tuesday on his southern trip in the interest of shipment and unload reports, and has now started homeward. He will stop at points in Alabama and North Carolina and probably reach Washington early next week.

A. E. Mercker will complete his period of service as Supervising Inspector in North Carolina by the end of this month, because the cooperative agreement between this Department and the State expires on August 31. Mr. Mercker again becomes a full-time Federal employee and will report for further duty in New York early in September.

B. E. Shaffer, who has been making a study of standardization problems in the Pacific Northwest, is now working on prunes in Idaho, and very soon will begin a study of the interpretation of Washington and Oregon apple grades.

Mr. Stillwell expects to leave the middle of next week and be absent until after Labor Day. He will be on vacation at seashore points in New Jersey and New York. Mr. Boree will be in charge of market news work.

R. M. Peterson, of the Minneapolis office, spent last Wednesday in the Hollandale trucking section, southern Minnesota, making a survey of crop conditions.

H. H. Henderson, of the Norfolk inspection office, has been on leave and will not return to duty before August 25. The next five days he will be at Painter, on the Eastern Shore of Virginia.

Congratulations are extended R. H. Shoemaker on his marriage to Miss Anna McLean. The happy event took place in the Fourth Presbyterian Church, Chicago, on August 3, and the honeymoon was spent in Ontario, Canada. Mr. Shoemaker is now in the Chicago office, but will proceed to Michigan very shortly to open up the news service at Benton Harbor and later at Grand Rapids.

There have been no changes this week in the list of inspection offices at shipping points; therefore, last week's list is not being published in this Division Letter.

OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

A. E. Prugh will remain at Walla Walla, Wash., until August 25, and then go to Boise, Idaho, where he will continue the series of confidential prune market reports, now being assembled and distributed to shippers by M. L. Dean, of the State staff. Local arrangements will be made to carry on the Walla Walla reports, and there will be a full exchange of information between these two prune sections. The complete market reports are being handled in the Portland office. Mr. Prugh will not go to Spokane until about September 10.

The following moves are being made by members of the Market News staff: J. K. Boyd has returned to duty in Pittsburgh. W. G. Lensen, who substituted for him, has now gone to New York City, where he will relieve W. H. Stanton during the latter's period of leave. G. D. Clark, of the Kansas City office, begins his vacation on Monday; K. S. Branch, inspector, will handle the market reporting work there until the arrival of R. H. Lamb. J. G. Scott has completed his period of leave at Princess Anne, Md., and is now taking care of E. R. Biddle's duties in Philadelphia, while Mr. Biddle is on vacation.

Apple market reports at Spokane will be issued thrice-weekly from August 23 to September 7, and then will be started on a daily basis. Watermelon market reports are being issued by the St. Louis office for benefit of growers and shippers in the Kennett section of Missouri, but this service probably will be discontinued at the end of this week.

R. L. Sutton will report at the Washington office, upon closing affairs at the Macon, Ga., field station this week. Mr. Sutton has been operating field stations in Florida and Georgia for the last few months.

Potomac Yards passing reports were discontinued today for the season. These reports will be resumed when Florida stuff begins to move in the fall.

Miss Mildred Moore, stenographer in the Market News headquarters, will motor to Ocean City, N.J., this Saturday and spend three weeks' vacation at Jersey seashore resorts.

At a meeting of Louisiana growers and State officials, arrangements were made for C. R. Newton to have supervision over a number of local inspectors, who will inspect sweet potatoes for grade during the next few months.

After 4½ years' service in the section handling shipment reports, Mrs. D. P. Dinsmore has been transferred to the Division of Crop and Livestock Estimates. Miss Eliza J. Joyce has come from Crop Estimates to handle Mrs. Dinsmore's former duties.

Herman Beckenstrater, Navy Inspector at Philadelphia, has just returned from two weeks' leave. It is probable that T. L. Kelly, of the Philadelphia office, will go on leave, beginning next Monday.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 7, NO.35
August 27, 1926.
(Contents Confidential)

1a. PROGRESS OF U. S. STANDARD TRADING RULES.

As forecast in the last Division Letter, blank contracts have been mailed for signature to all the shippers and dealers who indicated their desire to enter into the agreement outlined in Service and Regulatory Announcements No. 97, (Agricultural Economics). A limited supply also has been sent to each office of this Division. Any office which failed to receive these forms should advise Mr. Evans at once.

We have not sent supplies of the contracts to anyone outside of our own force for purposes of distribution, but, if any member of the trade or any trade organization wishes copies for the purpose of soliciting signatures, they should immediately be supplied by your office as far as your supply will permit, with requests for additional copies forwarded to the Washington office. In other words, we do not want our men to do any soliciting, but, if outside parties wish to solicit signatures, we have no objection whatsoever.

2a. BIG CONTRACT FOR CHICAGO.

An agreement has been negotiated by Mr. Butner, under which the Chicago office will inspect a minimum of 5,000 cars of juice grapes, to be sold on the delivered auctions in that city between August 25 and December 1, under the following conditions:

The United States Fruit Auction Company will furnish our office promptly with the car numbers of the juice-grape cars to be sold daily. Our inspectors will select 9 lugs from the doorway and top layer, which they will inspect for condition in the usual way, marking each lug with a sticker furnished by the Auction Company. Employees of the company will later take out these 9 lugs for display as the samples on which the car will be sold. Meantime, a summary of the result of the inspection will be prepared and posted on each car for the information of bidders, regular certificates to be issued as soon as possible for the use of the buyer. Sample lugs will be replaced in the cars after the sale, so that diversions can be made to outside points. We are undertaking to do this work for $2.50 per car. It is expected that the formal agreement will be signed this week.

3a. REDUCED RATES ON CONTRACT WORK.

The Department is committed to the principle of rendering inspection service to all applicants at prices closely approximating the actual cost of the work. Almost any definite volume of work, sufficient to occupy the time of one man, can be handled at less than $4.00 per car. Inspectors and other employees should miss no opportunity to bring this possibility to the attention of shippers, receivers and transportation officials. We ought to be able to compete with any commercial agency in price and to render a far

 (Continued over)

higher type of service. As soon as negotiations are opened with anyone for the inspection of a guaranteed minimum volume of produce, this office should be informed, so that approval may be given to each proposal as the negotiations proceed.

WELLS A. SHERMAN,
Specialist in Charge,
Fruit and Vegetable Division.

4a. DO YOU KNOW THE RULES?

Every technical employee in the F. & V. Division should be familiar with the U. S. Standard Trading Rules, as printed on the contract forms recently distributed to all offices. Any member of the staff who desires a personal copy of the contract can obtain same on request to the Washington office, if the man in charge of his local office does not have a sufficient supply. Growers, shippers and members of the trade are likely to ask numerous questions concerning the trading rules, and our men should be prepared to answer inquiries intelligently.

A special article on this matter has been prepared for "Crops and Markets," and it will appear in the weekly issue dated August 28. If you know that your inquirer receives that weekly paper, you can refer him to the article in the fruit and vegetable section. It would be well to read the article yourself, as a matter of information.

5a. CALIFORNIA GRAPES AND PEARS EXPORTED.

California Inspectors' Notes for August 20 contained the following interesting report of export shipments: F. A. Powell, of the San Francisco office, states that they inspected 500 kegs of Malaga grapes in sawdust, loaded on the S.S. President Adams for Singapore, and 2,500 twenty-pound cans of Bartlett pears for London, England. The pears were wrapped and put in cans, packed two to a crate, and treated with a special patented gas preserving process. A similar shipment left this port about a month ago for England, and the shipper says that he received a report that they sold for $7.50 per twenty-pound can on arrival in London.

6a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR AUGUST 21:

Page 117 - Many Apples Expected; Moderate Potato Crop. (weekly review)
118 - California Lima Beans Sold Well.
119 - California Grape Deal Opening Slowly, - by C. E. Schultz.
120 - Western Colorado Fruits and Vegetables, - by J. A. Hunter.
- Canadian Association Planning Expansion.
- Fifty Products Inspected at Shipping Point. (annual summary)
- Good Year for Washington Apple Exchange.
- Washing Potatoes in California.
- Many California Oranges Exported.
128 - Foreign Fruit Crop Conditions.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. REPORT PRICES OF GEORGIA SWEET POTATOES.

Unfavorable comments have been received because our sweet potato reports do not include quotations on Georgia stock. Georgia is a heavy producer and shipper of sweet potatoes. In the future, please include quotations on stock from that State whenever sufficient volume of sales has been made to enable the securing of satisfactory reports.

2b. NORTHWESTERN APPLE SITUATION.

In a letter of August 21, Mrs. L. B. Gerry, of the Spokane office, stated that very few apple sales have been made as yet. Buyers are scarce and there seems to be a general feeling of discouragement over the Pacific Northwest deal this year. The thing of most interest to the growers is what price they may get for their apples at shipping point. It is hoped that the situation will brighten in the near future.

3b. CONFIDENTIAL REPORT ON JERSEY POTATOES.

The following wire was received yesterday from J. G. Scott, of the Philadelphia office, and is for information of our staff but not for publication:-

"Heavy rains both sections New Jersey have stopped digging. Fields such condition digging will not be resumed until late Friday. Shippers almost cleaned out and are reluctant to sell present holdings. Central Jersey crop more than 60% moved, with probably 70% Cobblers shipped. South Jersey crop cleaning up rapidly; estimated that three days' favorable weather would practically wind up season."

4b. COLORADO LETTUCE DEAL BOOMING.

Wendell Calhoun wrote as follows from Denver on August 20:-

"Last week, lettuce shippers were rather nervous and uncertain, fearing a repetition of last year's disastrous market slump. But the shipments ran much lower than expected, and all at once they woke up to the fact that they had a demand for more lettuce than they could supply, and the deal has been booming. There seems to be no immediate prospect of a material increase in shipments, as there seems to be a continued heavy field loss from tip-burn, slime and seeders in many districts. The Granby section on the Moffat, which has been putting out most of the good quality lettuce, is reported to be past the peak, and, while the other districts along that line are increasing, they are not expected to be unusually large. There was some hail loss around Steamboat Springs and in the Divide district, though neither of these are heavy shipping sections. San Luis Valley has been running very light for several days. According to most shippers, there will not be any great increase until after the first of September. They have already had heavy frosts in some sections, which may not indicate an early finish but is retarding the growth."

5b. OZARK GRAPES NOT POPULAR IN TEXAS.

The following letter was received from W. D. Googe, of the Fort Worth office; it is dated August 18:-

"With reference to recent messages asking for reports on Ozark grapes from Fort Worth and Dallas, I have always wondered why Concord grapes were not generally sold in this section. I took pains to make inquiry regarding this condition yesterday in both cities, and the concensus of opinion is that they are now and always have been too high for popular use here. A few cars are brought in each year because there is a certain demand for that variety of grapes, but in nearly all cases jobbers have sustained losses.

"It is generally believed that the 5-pound basket must be sold by the retailers to the consumers at around 25¢; otherwise, they fall within the class of such products as cauliflower, avocados, artichokes, etc., which have a limited sale regardless of how high the price may be. California table grapes are very popular in Texas and the Southwest, and for wine or juice purposes there is always a large supply of the wild mustang grape, which many consider superior in every way to the Concord. These wild grapes produce throughout the summer and until frost, and may be had in bushel baskets at 50¢ to 75¢ each.

"There is also some criticism of the 5-pound basket as a container, although no one has offered a substitute. One dealer stated that Concord grapes might be sold in bulk or in bushel baskets, like the wild or homegrown grapes, at a similar price."

6b. ROCHESTER REPORTS COMMENDED.

It will be remembered that the market reports issued at Rochester last season were continued until the end of May, thus adding about two months to the usual period of service there. This arrangement was effected by the cooperation of the State Dept. of Farms and Markets. Near the end of the season, H. S. Duncan, Inspector in Charge, sent a circular letter to all persons on the mailing list, asking whether or not they considered the extended service of special value. Mr. Duncan received a large number of very complimentary letters in reply. Everybody was pleased with the continuation of reports until the end of May and many subscribers expressed themselves freely regarding the value of this service, particularly on potatoes when the price of potatoes was so relatively high.

7b. ADDITIONAL SUMMARIES ISSUED.

The following additional summaries of field deals have been issued:
MARKETING NEW YORK CABBAGE, Season of 1925-26, by A. E. Prugh.
WESTERN NEW YORK CELERY DEAL, Season of 1925-26, by A. E. Prugh.
WESTERN COLORADO ONION DEAL, Season of 1925, by J. D. Evers.
THE WESTERN SLOPE OF COLORADO POTATO DEAL, Season of 1925, by J. D. Evers.
NORTH CAROLINA PEACH DEAL, Season of 1925, by H. E. Rutland. This last deal should not be given special publicity, as only a few copies have been mimeographed and it is not for general distribution.

E. W. STILLWELL,
Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

Stations	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably will close
POCOMOKE CITY, MD.** Peninsula Bldg.	878	H. E. Rutland	Berries*	May 21	June 18*
			Potatoes*	June 14	Aug. 4*
			Cants.*	Aug. 6	Aug. 14*
			Sweets	Aug. 16	Oct. 9
FRESNO, CALIF.** Sequoia Hotel	919	C. E. Schultz	Grapes	Aug. 5	Nov. 10
GRAND JUNCTION, COLO.** Chamber of Commerce MAIL: P. O. Box 300	846	J. A. Hunter	Pears	Aug. 10	Sept. 30
			Potatoes	Aug. 10	Oct. 30
			Peaches	Aug. 16	Sept. 15
			Onions	Sept.10	Oct. 30
			Apples	Sept.10	Oct. 30
ROCKY FORD, COLO. Gobin Block	821	W. F. Cox	Cants.	Aug. 16	Sept. 25
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	Mrs. L. B. Gerry	Apples	Aug. 23	Mar. 31

The following stations may begin reports on dates indicated:

BENTON HARBOR, MICH.**	838	R. H. Shoemaker	Pears	Sept. 1	Oct. 2
			Apples	Sept. 1	Oct. 2
			Grapes	Sept. 1	Oct. 2
			Potatoes	Sept. 1	Oct. 2
			Peaches	Sept.15	Oct. 2
			Onions	Sept.20	Oct. 2
ROCHESTER, N. Y. ** 419 Triangle Bldg.	837	J. D. Evers A. L. Thomas	Apples	Sept. 7	May 28
			Pears	Sept. 7	Oct. 30
			Cabbage	Sept. 7	Mar. 12
			Onions	Sept.13	Apr. 15
			Peaches	Sept.13	Oct. 9
			Celery	Sept.15	Jan. 22
			Potatoes	Sept.15	May 28
			Grapes	Sept.20	Oct. 30
			Carrots	Sept.20	Apr. 15
WAUPACA, WIS.** Court House	894	G. D. Clark	Potatoes	Sept.10	Apr. 2

** State cooperating. * Reports discontinued.

R. H. Shoemaker in Chicago office.
J. D. Evers in Boston office.
R. L. Sutton in Baltimore office.
G. D. Clark on leave in Iowa.
W. G. Lensen in New York office.
J. G. Scott in Philadelphia office.
A. E. Prugh at Boise, Idaho.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. SPRAY RESIDUE.

No Federal or joint certificate shall contain any statement about freedom from arsenic or spray residue. If such residue is plainly visible and the applicant wants that fact noted on the certificate, the notation should be made, but in that case refer to spray residue and not to arsenic.

W.A.S.

2c. GRAPE GRADES USED IN CALIFORNIA.

With this D.L., each inspector will receive a copy of the California Department of Agriculture Special Publication No. 66, "United States Standards for Grapes, 1926." (P.S.-Booklet actually mailed under separate cover.)

3c. OZARK GRAPE PROSPECTS.

The following interesting information was received from J. A. Marks, at Springdale, Arkansas, under date of August 21:-

"The quality of the grape crop promises to be unusually good, unless we have a continuation of the heavy rains we have had the last few days. In many vineyards there has been a small amount of cracking of the berries on the vines, but these should drop off and, without additional rains, I believe the damage is over with. The yield is going to be good; in fact, in some vineyards it is very heavy, and the bunches are larger and more compact than usual. The Welch Company have started cutting grapes for the manufacture of 'Grapelaide' and say that, where they are now cutting, the yield will be around six tons to the acre. Some scattering vineyards have been hit by hail and there has been slight sunburning of exposed bunches during a few days of hot weather, but otherwise there is little defective stock to be culled out."

4c. SITUATION IN SOUTHERN INDIANA.

On August 16, F. M. Lyle sent the following information from Vincennes, Indiana, regarding the crop and inspection situation there:

The entire southern portion of the State received a good rain about August 10, which materially brightened the crop prospects. In the case of early tomatoes, however, the rains caused heavy cracking; little damage occurred to the later plantings. A couple of cars of tomatoes inspected in the region just north of Vincennes failed to grade U. S. No. 1 on account of cracks. Only a few additional cars of green wrapped tomatoes were expected to be shipped, but many cars of this product will go to canneries.

About 125 cars of peaches probably will be inspected in the section south of Vincennes. The rains may delay car-lot movement but they have improved the size and general quality of the fruit. Straight cars of peaches were to begin moving about August 20 or 23. A few cantaloupes were still being inspected around the middle of the month. Onion prospects in the northern part of the State are very bright, and inspections probably will equal, if not exceed, those of last season.

FEDERAL-STATE Shipping-Point Inspection Service is given credit for quality shipments of prunes from southeastern Washington and northeastern Oregon this season. The pressure test was used to determine maturity, and eastern buyers have spoken highly of the good fruit they have received.

5c. PENNSYLVANIA PEACH INSPECTIONS.

The following letter, dated August 25, was received from D. M. James, of the Chambersburg office:

"Peach inspection has started in the Chambersburg district and probably will continue about three weeks.

"Practically all of the shipments of the American Fruit Growers and those of the following shippers will be inspected:

D. M. Bream and Company
Ontelaunee Orchards, Inc.
Rice Produce Company
Pen Mar Co-op. Fruit Ass'n.
S. A. Heisey and Brother
Cumberland Valley Fruit Growers
Karns and Davidson
Mt. Parnell Co-op. Fruit Ass'n.
Adams County Fruit Packing and Distributing Co.
Funk Fruit Farm, Inc.
D. M. Wertz
C. H. Musselman
Peerless Orchards

"All cars will be marked with crayon, and car cards will be tacked inside."

6c. ILLINOIS PEACHES BEING INSPECTED ON OLD GRADES.

M. A. Russell, who supervises the inspection work in Illinois, sent the following notice to some of the market inspectors on August 21. The notice is re-printed below for the benefit of all concerned:

> A situation has arisen in connection with the shipping-point inspection of Illinois peaches, of which market inspectors should be informed. More than two years ago the State of Illinois formally adopted the U. S. peach grades, but unfortunately the grades were revised about that time and those adopted by Illinois were the old grades, put out by this Bureau in 1922. The discrepancy was not noticed in time for the State to officially make the change before the present shipping season. The result is that the inspections at Illinois shipping points are being made on the basis of the old peach grades, or "Illinois U. S. No. 1" and "Illinois U. S. No. 2" rather than the present U. S. grades. The principal differences are in the tolerance statement, the old grades allowing only 5% for any one defect rather than 5% for serious defects, and placing no special restriction on decay.
>
> It is not likely that many shipments properly certified as "Illinois U. S. No. 1" will fail to meet the present U. S. No. 1, but in case of appeal inspection care should be used not to make a reversal unless the shipment actually fails to meet the grade on which originally inspected.

7c. INTERESTING NEWS FROM IDAHO.

L. G. Schultz included the following in a letter of August 16, from Boise, Idaho:-

"Conditions in Idaho are rapidly developing into a state of activity, so far as the shipping of potatoes, peaches and prunes is concerned. The Canyon County or early deal is fast cleaning up, but shipments from the Twin Falls and Burley sections are starting and will soon be quite heavy. The quality of the potatoes from southwestern Idaho has been very good this season, and yields for the most part have been fair. The price of around $1.00 per hundred is not very encouraging, but we look for an improvement in the near future.

"Last week I made a trip to the Twin Falls section and found the prospects for the potato crop most excellent. That is about the only section where the stand is anywhere near normal, many of the districts north of Pocatello reporting as low as 70% of a stand. The acreage is some larger than last season, but the poor stand will no doubt reduce the yield 2,000 to 3,000 cars under last year. There is apparently much disease appearing in the fields of the late sections, due probably to the planting of poor-quality seed as well as to the growing conditions, which have been rather unfavorable.

"Peaches are moving now, having started in a small way last week. There will not be any great volume, but the quality appears to be very good, especially the Elberta variety. This is about two weeks early for this crop to be moving, but is about in line with the other crops this season.

"Prunes will not start much before August 23, although a few cars from the earliest sections may move this week. This will give the peak of the Walla Walla movement time to clean up and not come into competition with them. Estimates are generally around 1,500 cars, though many put the crop as high as 1,800 cars. The quality will be good, but the size will not equal that of last year, which is generally admitted to be the finest prune crop ever shipped.

"The Department's estimate for the apple crop is around 5,000 cars. These will start to move in a small way in about ten days, a few cars going out the last of this week or first of next. The spray residue question is causing lots of comment and no little worry."

8c. INSPECTION WORK IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

South Carolina inspections are about completed for this season, according to a recent letter from G. E. Prince, at Aiken. So far, only one reversal of a shipping-point certificate has been reported, - a car of potatoes. Nearly 300 cars of peaches were inspected during July and August, and total inspections since Mr. Prince took charge of this work in early May were 390 cars. Mr. Prince is now on annual leave.

PRUNES from the Walla Walla - Milton - Freewater district were receiving a wide distribution, according to reports from A. E. Prugh. Up to August 18, about 180 cities and towns in 24 States and four provinces of Canada had received one or more cars of this fruit.

TEMPORARY HEADQUARTERS OF SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION DEALS

State	Federal Supervisor	Products	Approx. date of Opening	Approx. date of Closing
IOWA:	C. D. Shirley, St. Ansgar, Ia.	Onions	Aug. 16	Sept. 30
INDIANA:	F. M. Lyle, County Agent's Office, Vincennes, Ind.	Apples *	July 12	July 31*
		Tomatoes	July 15	Aug. 21
		Cantaloupes	July 25	Aug. 21
		Peaches	Aug. 20	Sept. 15
COLORADO:	N. D. Sanborn, A. S. Mason, Rocky Ford, Colo.	Cantaloupes	Aug. 9	Sept. 30
ARKANSAS:	J. A. Marks, Springdale, Ark.	Grapes	Aug. 23	Sept. 4
PENNSYLVANIA:	D. M. James, 586 Lincoln Way East, Chambersburg, Pa.	Peaches	Aug. 23	Sept. 10
		Apples	Sept. 1	Oct. 15
WEST VIRGINIA:	J. J. Gardner, Berkeley Hotel, Martinsburg, W. Va.	Peaches	Sept. 1	Sept. 20
		Apples	Sept. 7	Oct. 30

The following station was discontinued:

DELAWARE:	F. S. Zimmerman, State Bureau of Markets Dover, Del.	Apples	July 5	Aug. 4
		Peaches	Aug. 14	Aug. 31
		Grapes	Aug. 23	Sept. 15

* Service completed on products marked with star.

9c. SUCCESSFUL DEAL IN KAW VALLEY.

A final letter from A. S. Mason, just before he left Topeka, Kans., for Rocky Ford, Colo., stated that between 1,300 and 1,400 cars of potatoes would be the total for this season's work in the Kaw Valley. This is about the same number as were inspected two years ago, but is a higher percentage of the shipments. Carlot movement in 1924 was at least 25% greater than this year.

9½c. ADDITIONAL REPORTS ON FOREIGN CROPS:

The Foreign Marketing Section recently issued the following reports:-
F.S.:A-60, "European Apple and Pear Prospects, August 1."
F.S.:A-61, "Apple and Pear Prices on the British Market, August 20."
F.S.:P-16, "Yugoslav Prune Prospects."

COMPARISON OF RECEIVING-POINT INSPECTIONS DURING LAST FIVE FISCAL YEARS:

MARKET	1921 - 22 TOTAL	1922 - 23 TOTAL	1923 - 24 TOTAL	1924 - 25 TOTAL	1925 - 26 TOTAL
Atlanta	436	563	694	600	840
Baltimore	864	542	421	360	386
Boston	1049	1154	1649	1718	2183
Buffalo	609	567	839	682	638
Chicago	4120	3257	2967	3172	2885
Cincinnati	695	678	519	444	536
Cleveland	1324	1266	1178	1743	1564
Columbus	253	449	665	345	340
Denver	16	103	171	141	151
Detroit	1061	1222	1109	1417	1732
Duluth	-	-	-	-	134
Erie	-	16	-	-	-
Fort Worth	122	192	142	138	181
Harrisburg	27	46	25	25	23
Houston	99	235	147	150	160
Indianapolis	456	450	333	318	403
Jacksonville	-	-	-	-	40
Kansas City	835	791	980	953	793
Los Angeles	26	30	25	12	100
Louisville	80	-	-	-	-
Memphis	452	441	363	452	572
Milwaukee	480	864	447	413	547
Minneapolis	1035	770	629	655	544
Newark	-	-	-	-	351
New Haven	-	25	514	480	672
New Orleans	684	949	1292	1411	1194
New York	4262	4764	7249	9955	9180
Norfolk	146	243	454	1179	263
Omaha	471	316	379	293	358
Philadelphia	5195	3358	1057	1086	1156
Pittsburgh	4375	2227	1981	1730	2002
Portland	-	-	379	433	471
Raleigh	-	-	-	-	19
Sacramento	-	-	-	-	7
St. Louis	1357	1879	1952	1375	1372
Salt Lake City	-	-	13	29	32
San Antonio	-	-	55	21	-
San Diego	-	-	-	58	9
San Francisco	5	6	10	32	59
Washington	536	558	486	342	343
Wichita	-	52	-	-	71
Wilkes-Barre	136	156	159	172	220
TOTAL	31207	28169	29283	32334	32531

- No inspector stationed here for this period.

INSPECTIONS BY MONTHS FOR THE NAVY, 1925 - 1926 — Figures = Pounds

Month	Boston	New York	Norfolk	Phila-delphia	San Diego	San Francisco	San Pedro	Vallejo	Wash-ington	TOTAL
July	206634	299796	626363	185120	384551	1984800	170874	253650	-	4111788
Aug.	159406	280317	730940	194116	345305	232306	37394	300620	-	2280404
Sept.	155172	932799	324764	269143	412829	155853	107558	208622	-	2566740
Oct.	104273	255346	1174282	135090	735495	884293	877452	206050	-	4372281
Nov.	108710	190084	149071	173454	676771	303345	630728	346718	-	2578881
Dec.	172076	417691	72387	327134	714035	177062	701492	182910	-	2764787
Jan.	304158	781200	1550131	421239	913025	2875451	745098	233470	-	7823772
Feb.	87817	248342	75048	145884	247765	110062	111328	196235	-	1222481
Mar.	77912	171378	666377	133047	299675	268250	36100	193414	-	1846153
Apr.	99882	319491	-	127515	798254	1326311	553346	178965	-	3403764
May.	256490	353761	--	409238	682547	208840	604246	284507	-	2799629
June	137254	188912	-	419084	619580	1175246	351734	154389	72757	3118956
TOTAL	1869784	4439117	5369363	2940064	6829832	9701819	4927350	2739550	72757	38889636
				TOTAL 1924-1925						
	2367717	4077716	6555753	4002275	6107865	13270511	3822867	2876434	-	43081138

INSPECTIONS BY MONTHS FOR THE MARINE CORPS, 1925 - 1926.

July	3109	92835	11242	22283	86533	-	-	28122	-	244124
Aug.	13657	84947	4241	22281	95851	-	-	47364	-	268341
Sept.	-	71911	-	16658	99442	-	-	47003	-	235014
Oct.	9253	86527	-	17597	69142	-	-	43862	-	226381
Nov.	6620	74703	3669	18465	61241	-	-	38078	-	202776
Dec.	7333	101776	-	21938	89145	-	-	35725	-	255917
Jan.	1786	52226	-	18276	50875	-	-	26878	-	150041
Feb.	3118	87092	-	15773	54211	-	-	21552	-	181746
Mar.	3177	80180	-	16133	55606	-	-	34707	-	189803
Apr.	3086	75158	-	18307	83336	-	-	34284	-	214171
May	1510	81651	-	28292	61676	-	-	26221	-	199350
June	4692	92947	-	32825	73292	-	-	36943	-	240699
TOTAL	57341	981953	19152	248828	880350	-	-	420739	-	2608363
				TOTAL 1924-1925						
	82882	1122907	109499	250619	923045	723461	-	488186	-	3700599

GRAND TOTAL

25-26	1927125	5421070	5388515	3188892	7710182	9701819	4927350	3160289	72757	41497999
24-25	2450599	5200623	6665252	4252984	7030910	13993972	3822867	3364620	-	46781737

10c. HEAVY INSPECTIONS FOR THE NAVY AND MARINE CORPS.

On the preceding page is a detailed report of the inspection work done for the Navy and Marine Corps during the fiscal year ended June, 1926. The total of 41,500,000 pounds of fruits and vegetables inspected is equivalent to about 1,660 carloads of 25,000 pounds each.

In addition to the inspections listed, the New York office made the following inspections for various steamship lines during the year:

	Vegetables (pounds)	Fruits (pounds)	Rejections (pounds)	Total (pounds)
For the Munson Line.....	830521	278014	121768	1230303
United States Lines.....	3657146	1718631	151330	5527107
United American Lines.....	- -	605391	35688	641079
American France Line.....	86413	28815	1270	116498
American Merchant Lines...	93843	29901	5181	128925
American Diamond Line.....	78966	16622	6345	101933
American West African Line	29419	7888	1030	38337
TOTAL.....	4776308	2685262	322612	7784182

This total of approximately 7,785,000 pounds is equivalent to about 311 carloads of 25,000 pounds each.

For the laid-up fleet of the United States Shipping Board the following additional inspections were made at New York and Norfolk during the year:

	Fruits and Vegetables Passed (pounds)	Rejected (pounds)	Total (pounds)	"Cuts" (pounds)	Items billed short-weight (pounds)
New York.....	358307	8044	366551	0	0
Norfolk.....	479393	14656	494049	749	0
TOTAL.....	837700	22700	860600	749	0

This total of about 860,000 pounds is equal to 35 carloads.

In addition to the foregoing, the Norfolk office inspected during the past year 4,880 pounds of bread, ice cream, butter, etc.; the San Pedro office inspected and passed 216,342½ pounds of bread, butter, poultry, meat, fish and cheese, 5,580 dozen eggs, and 290 gallons of ice cream; the Vallejo offic inspected and passed 374,623 pounds of bread and rolls for the Navy.

11c. SPECIAL CIRCULARS ON APPLES AND PEARS.

Through the kindness of F. E. Bailey, Yakima, Wash., this office has received one copy of each of the following mimeographed circulars: "Picking Apples in Relation to Quality" and "Picking Pears in Relation to Quality." The author is H. C. Diehl, Physiologist of B.P.I., located at Wenatchee, and the circulars were mimeographed for distribution among inspectors in the State of Washington.

12c. LITERATURE SENT TO INSPECTORS:

In addition to the Grape Grades booklet, mentioned in Par. 2c, page 468 of this D.L., the following material has been mailed to all inspectors:-

-Grape Inspection Circular, revised. This supersedes the previous inspection circular on this product, which should be destroyed.

-Dept. Bulletin 1401, "Marketing Peanuts." - Dept. Bulletin 1412, "Marketing Lettuce." -Farmers' Bulletin 1499, "The Melon Aphid."

ROBERT BIER, Supervising Inspector.

OFFICE NOTES:

This morning in the rectory of Trinity Episcopal Church, Takoma Park, Md., Mr. Samson was married to Miss Verne Lockwood. They left shortly thereafter for an automobile trip through Virginia, and Mr. Samson does not expect to return to the office before Labor Day. The entire Fruit and Vegetable staff unites in congratulations to the groom and very best wishes to the bride.

Circumstances arose at the last minute, which made it impossible for Mr. Stillwell to begin his vacation this week. He will defer his leave until a later date.

Sincere regret is felt over the resignation of F. Earl Parsons, as a cooperative employee in charge of the Virginia inspection and standardization work. He leaves the service on August 31, to accept a position with Maynard & Child, prominent fruit dealers and exporters. It is understood that Mr. Parsons, for the present, will represent this firm in the apple-shipping sections of Virginia, West Virginia and Pennsylvania. He was appointed to the Fruit and Vegetable Division in May, 1917, and began his cooperative work in Virginia about four years ago, making a total of nine years in the Federal and State service. Our best wishes go with Mr. Parsons in his new position.

W. T. Pentzer, of the Chicago market news staff, also will leave this Division early in September, to take up work in B.P.I. under the direction of Dr. L. A. Hawkins. His new duties will be along the line of storage and transportation investigations. Mr. Pentzer was appointed to the News Service only 5½ months ago and has done very satisfactory work during this period.

Announcement has been received of the birth of a daughter, Nancy Jean, on August 16 to Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Conklin, Jr., at Fresno, Calif. Mrs. Elizabeth Estes, of the Washington office, and husband also annouce the arrival of a daughter, Frances Elizabeth, in their home on August 19.

V. D. Callanan, formerly in charge of our New York market news office, visited friends in the Washington office on Monday. He was en route to Martinsburg, W. Va., where he will represent the Federated F . & V. Growers.

R. L. Sutton arrived in Washington on Tuesday, having driven by automobile from Macon, Ga. He is on leave in Virginia this week, and will report in Baltimore next Monday, where he will substitute for W. E. Harrison while the latter is on vacation.

The New York State Fair is being held at Syracuse this week. H. W. Schneck, of the New York inspection staff, is on leave in order to attend the Fair and serve as judge in the vegetable exhibit. Mr. Hackleman, of the New York office, also hoped to be able to attend the Fair this year.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, being Labor Day, will be observed as a holiday in all offices.

OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

K. W. Schaible and H. L. Harrington, two members of the recent training class for inspectors, did not go to New York, as originally announced, but have remained in Chicago to assist with the grape inspections which are being made for the new auction company there.

After next Wednesday, J. J. Gardner can be addressed at the Berkeley Hotel, Martinsburg, W. Va. Mr. Gardner will be at Martinsburg and adjacent points for a couple of months, supervising the local inspection work on apples and peaches. M. W. Baker remains in temporary charge of Pittsburgh inspection service.

R. H. Lamb arrived in Kansas City on Monday and now is in charge of the market reporting work in that city.

Robert Bier was in Trenton, N. J., on Wednesday, conferring with W. C. Lynn regarding the State inspection work on potatoes and peaches.

F. S. Kinsey advises from the Richmond office that he has been making trips through some of the important apple sections of Virginia, and is lining up the inspection work for the season.

Instead of reporting immediately to Chicago after completion of the inspections in Oklahoma, H. T. Longino went to Houston, Texas, for a period of leave. He is expected in Chicago early next week.

It is understood that the peach inspections in Delaware will be relatively light and that F. S. Zimmerman has found it unnecessary to maintain headquarters at Dover. The remaining inspection work in that State will be handled by a licensee, and Mr. Zimmerman can be addressed at the New York office.

J. G. Cross returned to Washington yesterday from his southern trip in the interest of carrier reports. He is due back at his desk on Monday.

Edwin Smith sailed for England on Wednesday, as planned, and during the coming season will continue his work in the United Kingdom and on the continent as specialist in foreign marketing.

O. N. Harsha, of the New York staff, is substituting for G. W. Payne, in Boston, while Mr. Payne takes his vacation. W. C. Hangstafer likewise is handling the New Haven assignment during W. F. Plummer's annual leave. G. M. Beeson, Navy Inspector at Brooklyn, was on sick leave for two weeks but has now returned to duty.

G. A. DeHaven was in Cleveland, Columbus and Cincinnati the past few days, and expected to reach Chicago this Saturday.

G. D. Clark is on leave at Laurens, Iowa, until about September 2. A little later he will go to Waupaca, Wis., and operate the field station on potatoes during the fall and winter months.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 7, NO. 36.
Sept. 3, 1926.
(Contents Confidential)

1a. TRADING RULES AGREEMENT:

Up to Thursday signed Agreements relating to the U.S. Standard Trading Rules had been received from over 300 handlers of fresh fruits and vegetables. A number of our branch offices have asked for additional supplies of the Agreements and accompanying papers for distribution to the trade. A record should be kept of the dealers to whom the Agreements are furnished and such lists should be forwarded to the Washington office, so as to avoid duplication in connection with any later distribution of the Agreements from Washington. So far as possible, a list of those to whom the Agreements already have been furnished should be mailed in. No countersigned Agreements have yet been sent back to the dealers.

2a. TRADING RULES PROJECT COMMENDED.

In a recent letter to Mr. Tenny, regarding the Standard Trading Rules, the Brownie Fruit Company, with headquarters in Los Angeles, wrote as follows:

"The privilege of affixing our signatures to the inclosed contracts affords one of the greatest events of our business career. We feel that your Department, by offering this scientific agency, means the commencement of a new era in the fruit and vegetable industry. It comes at a very opportune time, as the results obtained by the grower, shipper and receiver during the last several months have certainly been unsatisfactory, due principally to climatic conditions throughout the country. Assuring you of our desire to co-operate with you at all times and with best wishes for abundant success, etc."--

3a. SATURDAY HALF-HOLIDAYS STOP ON SEPTEMBER 11:

The afternoon of September 11 will be the last Saturday half-holiday for this summer. The full schedule of work will be resumed on Saturday, September 18.

4a. ANOTHER BULLETIN ON APPLES.

"Picking, Packing and Shipping Apples" is the title of Missouri Agriculutral Experiment Station Circular 147, obtainable from the Station at Columbia, Mo. Authors are T. J. Talbert and F. S. Merrill. The bulletin contains detailed information on picking and grading apples, and the approved methods of preparing this fruit for market.

"LIFE IS A GRINDSTONE, AND WHETHER IT GRINDS A MAN DOWN OR POLISHES HIM UP DEPENDS ON THE STUFF HE'S MADE OF." - Josh Billings.

5a. SUCCESS OF PRUNE MARKETING PLAN.

The cooperative prune-marketing plan, established in the Walla Walla-Milton - Freewater district of the Pacific Northwest this season by the Traffic Association, appears to have met with a most encouragihg degree of success. Just before leaving WallaWalla for Boise, Idaho, where he will assist in conducting a similar plan for the benefit of Idaho prune shippers and growers, A. E. Prugh submitted an editorial which appeared in the Walla Walla Bulletin. Parts of the editorial are quoted below, to show the general satisfaction with this system of confidential f.o.b. reports and the daily exchange of information through an impartial Government representative:-

The Prune Victory

"It should be a cause of generd satisfaction to note that the valley is well on the way toward an apparently permanent solution of its prune marketing problem, and that prominent men in the industry are predicting a bright future for the business. Of recent years here, prune acreage has been questioned as a good investment because of the marketing disaster of 1923 and the poor seasons following. **** This year, the Government stepped in and showed the shippers how they could cooperate for their own and the growers' benefit. **** Instead of prune prices dwindling with the season, they are growing stronger as the national buyers, needing prunes for profit and for customers' demands, find that they cannot play the local shippers against each other. About $300,000 will now roll into the coffers of the district, whereas, under the old system, the valley would have been lucky this year to have received a third of that amount. Surely this has been a profitable lesson to the fruit industry of this valley. The Traffic Association ought to extend its cooperation to other crops.**** The prune industry is on the high road to success. No wonder there is optimism evident in the orchards, in the packing houses, and in the business life of the entire community."

N.B.- A very complete account of the Walla Walla marketing plan is to appear in "Crops and Markets" for September 4. Read it.

6a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR AUGUST 28:

Page 133 - Plenty of Fall Onions. (weekly review)
135 - Standard Trading Rules to be Tried.
- Shipping-Point Inspections Break Record. (annual summary)
136 - Standardization as a Basis of Trading. -(based on address by H. W. Samson)
- Illinois Peach Deal in Full Swing, - by J. H. Hall.
- Florida Grapes Shipped in Car-lots.
144 - Potato Prospects in the Northern Hemisphere.
- Yugoslav Prune Prospects.

7a. NEW GRAPE LUG STANDARDIZED IN CALIFORNIA.

A new grape lug - 5 1/4 inches deep, 13 3/4 inches wide and 17 1/2 inches outside length - has been added to the list of standard containers in California.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. COLORADO LETTUCE, PEAS AND CAULIFLOWER:

The following additional information was contained in a letter of August 27, from Mr. Calhoun, of the Denver office:-

"Shippers of Colorado lettuce are having a very difficult time, their principal trouble being to hold off the buyers and keep them from buying faster than the lettuce can be supplied. When the f.o.b. market was $3.00, one of the shippers replied to inquiries with $3.50, thinking that he could hold back the orders, but he had acceptance on more orders than he could fill. An eastern buyers told me that never in his experience had he seen lettuce demand as 'hot' as it is now.

"The f.o.b. market has been a bit wild, but the quotations that I get from the shippers and the buyers usually check very closely, so I feel quite sure that I am getting it about right. There is not a great deal of cash buying done here, but the buyers are in very close touch with conditions, and have given me excellent cooperation.

"Price to the grower in different districts has varied more or less all season, according to local conditions and competition. Today I hear all the way from $1.50 to as high as $2.50, where a couple of sheds are bucking each other. One shipper told me that on one car his platform man had paid a variation of 50¢ per crate to the farmer, account of quality.

"The quality now is mostly fair, on account of the usual ailments and also frost injury in many districts, causing slime and necessitating close trimming and 'bald heads.' Sizes are shifting from fours to fives. Then, on the other hand, there is some very good quality from a few districts.

"Shipments are expected to increase from the 1st to the 10th of September, and the September crop may come on in better shape. But one of the principal shippers mad a bet that total Colorado shipments for 1926 would not exceed 2,500 cars, or 500 less than in 1925.

"Just at present we are having some more unfavorable weather, hot and dry in the mountain districts, though the nights continue cool. Yampa, on the Moffat road, reported 85° maximum and 41° minimum yesterday. So, plenty of things can happen to the September crop.

"Peas are sky high, and, though the cauliflower market was rather nervous a few days ago, reports today indicate a fairly steady feeling. Some information that Mr. Peterson, at Minneapolis, sent on the Duluth deal was greatly appreciated by the principal cauliflower shippers here."

2b. ADDITIONAL SUMMARIES ISSUED:

COLORADO CANTALOUPE DEAL, Season of 1925, by R. H. Lamb, and MICHIGAN APPLE DEAL, Season of 1925, by R. H. Shoemaker, are two new summaries which were distributed during the past week.

ABOUT 12,148,715 MIMEOGRAPHED REPORTS were issued at market and field stations during the calendar year 1925. Approximately 8,869,000 reports were published at 18 market stations and the remainder at 36 field stations.

3b. MORE NEWS ON JERSEY POTATOES:

J. G. Scott wired as follows from Philadelphia on Sept. 1, this information being marked "Confidential" --"South Jersey closing out. Shipments after today will be limited to few cars which are being held back by shippers who are holding for higher prices. Estimated better than 75% total crop in central Jersey moved, with possibly 85% to 90% Cobblers shipped."

4b. WESTERN TOMATO PROSPECTS.

In a letter of August 25, written to a California firm, H. A. Harris gave the following information on tomatoes:

"Shippers all seem to think that the tomato acreage in Riverside, Orange and San Diego counties is somewhat greater than last year; 5,000 acres is the figure I usually hear spoken of, as the estimate for the acreage in southern California, including Ventura County. The latest report, dated August 5, from the office of the Agricultural Statistician indicates a condition of 80% of normal, with slight blight damage reported from nearly all districts in California. Shipments are now under way in Orange County districts.

"The condition of the Utah crop was reported on July 31 by the Agricultural Statistician there to be only 62% of normal. The crop is generally injured by blight. Unofficial estimates from Utah indicate that there were about 650 acres planted for their main crop, from which not over 350 cars are expected to be shipped. There were in addition about 100 cars of early tomatoes, that should be practically all out by the end of August."

5b. BRITISH AND GERMAN FRUIT IMPORTS.

F.S.:F-32, the latest report issued by the Foreign Marketing Section, is entitled: "British and German Fruit Imports in July."

6b. BRIEF REVIEW OF MARYLAND CANTALOUPE DEAL.

When cantaloupe reports were discontinued on August 14, at the Pocomoke City field station, H. E. Rutland released a brief mimeographed Review of the Eastern Shore of Maryland Cantaloupe Deal. Parts of this report will appear in an early issue of "Crops and Markets."

7b. SUMMARY OF NEW YORK LETTUCE SHIPMENTS.

A. L. Thomas, of the Rochester office, has issued an interesting statistical summary of New York lettuce shipments for the month of August. The days of the month appear across the top of the sheet and destinations are arranged in the left-hand margin. The number of cars destined to each market each day thus can be seen at a glance. About 22 cities in 12 States received one or more cars during August. Nine cars went as far west as St. Louis.

B. C. BOREE,
Marketing Specialist.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

Stations	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably will close
POCOMOKE CITY, MD.** Peninsula Bldg.	878	H. E. Rutland J. G. Scott, after Sept.7	Berries* Potatoes* Cants.* Sweets.	May 21 June 14 Aug. 6 Aug. 16	June 18* Aug. 4* Aug 14* Oct. 9
FRESNO, CALIF.** Sequoia Hotel	919	C. E. Schultz	Grapes	Aug. 5	Nov. 10
GRAND JUNCTION, COLO.** Chamber of Commerce MAIL: P.O. Box 300	846	J. A. Hunter	Pears Potatoes Peaches Onions Apples	Aug. 10 Aug. 10 Aug. 16 Sept. 10 Sept. 10	Sept. 30 Oct. 30 Sept. 15 Oct. 30 Oct. 30
ROCKY FORD, COLO. Gobin Block	821	W. F. Cox	Cants.	Aug. 16	Sept 25
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	Mrs. L.B. Gerry	Apples	Aug. 23	Mar. 31
BENTON HARBOR, MICH.** 403 Fidelity Bldg.	838	R. H. Shoemaker	Pears Apples Grapes Peaches Potatoes Onions	Sept. 7 Sept. 7 Sept. 7 Sept. 7 Sept. 10 Sept. 20	Oct. 2 Oct. 2 Oct. 2 Oct. 2 Oct. 2 Oct. 2
ROCHESTER, N.Y.** 419 Triangle Bldg.	837	J. D. Evers	Apples Pears Cabbage Onions Peaches Celery Potatoes Grapes Carrots	Sept. 7 Sept. 7 Sept. 7 Sept. 13 Sept. 13 Sept. 15 Sept. 15 Sept. 20 Sept. 20	May 28 Oct. 30 Mar. 12 Apr. 15 Oct. 9 Jan. 22 May 28 Oct. 30 Apr. 15

The following stations may begin reports on dates indicated:

WAUPACA, WIS.** Court House	894	G. D. Clark	Potatoes	Sept. 13	Apr. 2
PRESQUE ISLE, ME.	842	H. E. Rutland	Potatoes	Sept. 15	Mar. 31

**State cooperating. *Reports discontinued.

R. L. Sutton in Baltimore office.
G. D. Clark in Wisconsin.
W. G. Lensen in New York office.
J. G. Scott in Philadelphia office.
A. E. Prugh at Boise, Idaho.

TEMPORARY HEADQUARTERS OF SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION DEALS

State	Federal Supervisor	Products	Approx. date of Opening	Closing
IOWA:	C. D. Shirley, St. Ansgar, Ia.	Onions	Aug. 16	Sept. 30
INDIANA:	F. M. Lyle, County Agent's Office, Warsaw, Ind.	Onions	Sept. 7	Dec. 4
COLORADO:	N. D. Sanborn, A. S. Mason, Rocky Ford, Colo.	Cantaloupes	Aug. 9	Sept. 30
PENNSYLVANIA:	D. M. James, 586 Lincoln Way East, Chambersburg, Pa.	Peaches Apples	Aug. 23 Sept. 1	Sept. 10 Oct. 15
WEST VIRGINIA:	J. J. Gardner, Berkeley Hotel, Martinsburg, W. Va.	Peaches Apples	Sept. 1 Sept. 7	Sept. 20 Oct. 30
VIRGINIA:	F. S. Kinsey, 605 Nat'l Bank Bldg. Charlottesville, Va.	Peaches Apples	Sept. 1 Sept. 7	Sept. 20 Oct. 30
MICHIGAN:	J. A. Marks, Benton Harbor, Mich.	Grapes	Sept. 7	Oct. 2

The following stations will be discontinued about date indicated:

INDIANA:	F. M. Lyle, County Agent's Office, Vincennes, Ind.	Apples Tomatoes Cantaloupes Peaches	July 12 July 15 July 25 Aug. 20	July 31 Aug. 21 Aug. 21 Sept. 4
ARKANSAS:	J. A. Marks, Springdale, Ark.	Grapes	Aug. 23	Sept. 4

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. COLORADO GRADE BOOKLET.

"Official Grades for the Standardization of Colorado Fruits and Vegetables, 1926" is the title of a booklet, which is being sent to all inspectors with this Division Letter.

2c. BRIEF NOTES ON THE VARIOUS DEALS:

-E. F. McKune advised from Denver that about 250 cars of produce are now being inspected each day at shipping points in Colorado, mostly cantaloupes and peaches. Nearly 75 men are at work, 20 on cantaloupes and the remainder on other products. A number of firms are using the inspection service for the first time this season. Mr. McKune believes that a larger percentage of the total shipments will be inspected than last season.

- Approximately 200 inspectors are working at shipping points in Califonnia, the greater part of the force now giving its attention to grapes. The f.o.b. market was still slow last week, and more grapes than usual probably will be dried this season.

- F. M. Lyle now advises that between 225 and 250 cars of peaches may be the total inspections of this fruit in Indiana. Practically all shipments are being inspected. Mr. Lyle has had a request from Laurel, Ind., for inspection of apples, beginning about Sept. 15; there may be 100 cars in that district. Work is now starting on onions in northern Indiana.

ROBERT BIER,
Supervising Inspector.

OFFICE NOTES:

Recent changes among California cooperative inspectors include the following: F. C. Cadwallader has gone to Ontario, Calif., to handle a shipping-point deal, and Ralph Sharer is temporarily in charge of the Los Angeles work for the State of California. S.S. Rogers, Asst. Chief, Bureau of Fruit and Vegetable Standardization, has gone to Fresno for three months, where he will represent the State Dept. of Agriculture in the car-distribution plan which is being carried out by the railroads and shippers. V. T. Harmon, cooperative inspector, has gone from Turlock to Modesto, Calif., where he will inspect grapes, and K. R. Nutting is now located at Santa Rosa, Calif. Mr. Nutting until recently had been at Sebastopol on the apple deal.

Announcement has been received of the birth of a son on August 23 to Mr. and Mrs. Edward G. Pecher, of St. Louis. Mrs. Pecher, it will be remembered, resigned from our St. Louis force some time ago, after having served as clerk-typist in the inspection office for a number of years.

J. D. Evers will proceed at once to Rochester, N.Y., where he will be in charge of the market-reporting work the coming season, assisted by A. L. Thomas, who is the radio operator.

OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

After nine years' effective service in the Inspection project, W. V. Stephens, Associate Regional Supervisor in New York City, has resigned to accept a position in the Northwest with the Atlantic Commission Company. It is understood that this company buys produce for The A. & P. Tea Company and others. Mr. Stephens was the supervisor of shipping-point inspection work in New Jersey and Maine in recent years and has assisted with various other deals, but most of his time has been spent on terminal market work, chiefly at New York. Regret is felt over his resignation, and our best wishes go with Mr. Stephens in his new position.

G. W. Payne, who also has been in the service nearly nine years, - practically all of the time in Boston, - is being transferred to New York City as successor to Mr. Stephens. Mr. Payne has been spending his vacation in Virginia and was a visitor to the Washington office on Wednesday. He plans to return to Boston about the 10th and make arrangements for moving to New York, and probably will reach the latter city about the 20th or 25th of the month.

O. N. Harsha will remain in Boston, where he went to substitute for Mr. Payne , and will be in temporary charge of inspection work in that market

CHARLOTTE, N. C., will be the location of a new station of the market inspection service, beginning about Sept. 20. The Chamber of Commerce has offered desk space and telephone service. Bolling Hall, of the New York City staff, will be in charge of this new work. During the first few weeks, the office will be operated about four days a week, so as to permit Mr. Hall to take his annual leave in short periods.

Mr. Robb expects to be back at his desk next Tuesday morning, after his vacation in Arkansas, Iowa and other parts of the Middle West.

Miss Grace Robinson, of the Washington office, left last week for a vacation at Dorchester, Mass. She expects to return by Sept. 20.

Mr. Stillwell started yesterday afternoon on a short period of leave and is driving by automobile to New Jersey points. He will return about the middle of next week. Mr. Boree starts his vacation next Monday and will be absent until about the 15th.

G. A. DeHaven is due to return to Washington this Saturday. During the past few days he has been at St. Louis, Detroit and Pittsburgh.

F. S. Kinsey has made Charlottesville his headquarters during the Virginia apple-inspection deal. He should be addressed c/o F. E. Merrifield, 605 National Bank Bldg., Charlottesville, Va.

Mr. Pailthorp spent Thursday with Mr. Kinsey, at Charlottesville, conferring on the grading and inspection of barreled apples.

OFFICE NOTES(Continued):

Among recent visitors to the Washington office were W. H. Stanton, who is spending his vacation in Washington and Maryland, and A. E. Mercker, who was en route from Raleigh, N.C. , to New York City. Mr. Mercker will supervise shipping-point inspection work in western New York this season.

F. E. Hooper, of the Boston inspection office, is on leave this week, and J. H. Hoover, of Atlanta, planned to take his vacation between now and the middle of September, leaving H. F. Willson in charge at Atlanta.

Having completed his vacation in Iowa, G. D. Clark expects to be at Madison and potato-shipping points in Wisconsin next week, arranging for the news service at Waupaca, which opens Sept. 13.

A cooperative agreement was finally effected with State agencies in Michigan, and R. H. Shoemaker will begin the news service on fruits at Benton Harbor next Tuesday.

Early next week, J. G. Scott will go from Philadelphia to Pocomoke City, Md., and take over the duties of H. E. Rutland at that field station. Mr. Rutland will then proceed to Presque Isle, Me., to issue the usual market reports on potatoes, beginning about Sept. 15.

The remaining inspection work at shipping points in southern Indiana will be handled by licensees, and F. M. Lyle should now be addressed in care of the County Agent's Office at Warsaw, Ind., from which point he will supervise the work on onions. Mr. Lyle went from Vincennes to Warsaw on Sept. 1.

Michigan authorities desired that inpsection work on grapes in the southwestern part of that State be inaugurated at once, and J. A. Marks expects to leave Springdale, Ark., by the end of the week and proceed to Benton Harbor to handle this Michigan deal. Licensees will take care of the remaining inspection work on Ozark grapes.

J. R. Duncan, of the San Diego office, was taken very sick last week and was ordered to bed by his physician. He may not be able to return to duty for a month. It is necessary that inspection for the Navy be continued without interruption, and J. B. Wright will stay at San Diego a little longer than originally intended, to care for this work until C. R. Newton arrives from Louisiana. Mr. Newton was directed yesterday to proceed at once to San Diego, and serve as substitute for Mr. Duncan.

After next Monday, J. B. Wright should again be addressed at his official headquarters, P. O. Box 166, Naval Station, San Pedro, Calif., or he can be reached at his home: 4507 Second Ave., Los Angeles.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
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Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 7, NO. 37
Sept. 10, 1926.
(Contents Confidential)

1a. NEW DEPARTMENT BULLETIN ON APPLES.

Department Bulletin No. 1406, entitled: "The Ripening, Storage, and Handling of Apples," has just recently come from the press. Authors are J. R. Magness, H. C. Diehl, M. H. Haller, W. S. Graham, all of B. P. I., and D. B. Carrick, F. S. Howlett, R. F. Marshall, H. H. Plagge and G. J. Raleigh. The bulletin of 64 pages is well illustrated with many charts, and covers the subjects thoroughly. Copies can be had from the Office of Publications, U.S.D.A., Washington.

2a. 1925 YEARBOOK PUBLISHED.

Copies of the 1925 Yearbook of the Department have come from the Printing Office and one has been sent to each of the branch offices. This is a special fruit and vegetable issue and contains many articles on the industry, in addition to the Secretary's annual report and more than 1,500 pages of statistical matter. A recent announcement in The Official Record contains the following descriptive paragraph:

"The articles on fruits and vegetables in this volume include historical material relating to fruit and vegetable growing in this country. The present status of the industry is discussed, as well as its marketing problems, cultural methods, and the economic factors that determine its development. Considerable space is devoted to plant pests and diseases and to methods of combating them. Recent progress in drying, canning, and pickling is recorded, and attention is given to the problem of utilizing surpluses and by-products of fruits and vegetables."

Mr. Samson and Mr. Pailthorp are listed among the authors of the special article on "Marketing Fruits and Vegetables," which alone covers 90 pages. Plant Industry representatives contributed most of the articles.

3a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR SEPTEMBER 4:

Page 149 - Potato Prices Fluctuating. (weekly review)
150 - New Bulletin on Fruits and Vegetables.
151 - Northwestern Fresh Prune Deal Successful, - A. E. Prugh.
152 - Heavy Grape Inspections in Chicago.
- News Service in Michigan, Wisconsin and New York.
- Northwestern Apples to be Advertised.
- Terminal Inspections Gradually Increasing. (annual summary)
- California Grapes and Pears Exported.

4a. NEW INSPECTION OFFICE TO BE OPENED AT CHARLOTTE, N. C.

All market news men are requested to mimeograph and circulate the following article to all shippers on their mailing lists. Inspectors also should spread this information in any way they can easily do so:

NEW FRUIT AND VEGETABLE INSPECTION OFFICE TO BE OPENED AT CHARLOTTE, N. C.

In response to many requests from shippers and receivers, a Federal inspection office for fruits and vegetables will be opened on September 21 at Charlotte, N. C., in order to determine whether the demand there and in neighboring markets is sufficient to justify keeping an inspector in that territory on a permanent basis.

The following are among the principal cities in which inspections will be handled from this new office: Raliegh, Durham, Greensboro, Salisbury, Winston-Salem, Ashville, and High Point, in North Carolina; Spartansburg, Greenville, Anderson, Laurens, Union, Columbia, Darlington, and Florence, in South Carolina; Morristown, Elizabethton, and Johnson City, Tennessee; and Danville and Lynchburg, Virginia.

During the next few weeks, the inspector will have headquarters at Charlotte on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of each week, and at Ashville on Monday and Saturday. Requests for inspections should be addressed "Food Products Inspection" on the days and at the places indicated above.

The regular fees will be charged for inspections made at the inspector's headquarters. At other points in the territory, traveling expenses from his headquarters will be charged to the applicant in addition to the regular fees.

5a. AUGUST SUPPLEMENT TO "CROPS AND MARKETS."

The August Supplement to "Crops and Markets" was distributed last week, having come from the Printing Office about September 2.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. COMBATING AN ERRONEOUS ADVERTISEMENT.

A letter of September 2, from C. J. Hansen, San Francisco, gives the following information:-

"In order to combat the recent advertisements published by the Heinz Packing Company that 'potatoes are high," the San Francisco Potato Dealers' Association has collected $2,000. This will be used for a series of advertisements to be run in the local papers.

"If you know of any other districts doing this, I would be pleased to hear of it, as I understand the Heinz advertisements were published in the various magazines and periodicals throughout the United States."

2b. WATERMELON REPORTS STOPPED.

Watermelon market reports were discontinued for the season on Sept. 1.

E. W. STILLWELL,
Specialist in Market News.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. CHANGES IN WESTERN GRAPE GRADES:

The following detailed description of the changes in grape grades for the present season deserves careful study on the part of all receiving-point inspectors. The statements are from a letter written on August 31 by E. E. Conklin, Jr., at Fresno, Calif.:-

CHANGES IN JUICE GRADES

There have been only five changes in the Juice grades. None of these will affect the work of the market inspectors greatly. The changes are as follows:

(1) In U.S. No.1 grade, the tolerance for decay formerly was 2%. This has been changed to read,"not more than 2% can be affected by mold or decay, BUT IN NO CASE SHALL MORE THAN 10% BY WEIGHT OF THE BUNCHES IN ANY CONTAINER HAVE SPOTS OF MOLD OR DECAY, AFFECTING TWO OR MORE CONTIGUOUS BERRIES."

This restriction was placed in the grades to prevent cars of black juice grapes, particularly Zinfandels, from grading No.1, when many bunches are scattered through lugs showing small amounts of decay, but the total is less than 2%. This specification is making it easier for the inspectors to throw cars of Zinfandels out of No.1 grade which are about on the border because of decay. As a result of it, there should be more general satisfaction with the arrival condition of U.S. 1 Juice stock.

This specification will have practically no effect on the Muscat or the Tokay Juice work here, as these varieties usually show decayed berries scattered on the bunch, rather than in spots.

(2) A definition for "wet" has been added to the grades, as follows: "WET MEANS MOISTURE FROM CRUSHING, RAIN , DEW, OR OTHER CAUSES." This has been added to make it easier for the inspectors to score against grade stock, especially black juice grapes, which is wet from rain or heavy dew.

(3) The definition of "seriously damaged" has been changed by adding the term,"COMPLETELY DRIED,"as follows: "Seriously damaged" includes grapes which are split, crushed, wet, COMPLETELY DRIED, or affected with redberry, waterberry, mold, or decay.

The term "completely dried" refers to berries which are sunburned or dried from other causes and are dry, hard and completely dried. Such stock weighs so little that a small percentage, by weight, injures the appearance of a lot considerably, and, when placed under the heading of seriously damaged, 5% causes a lot to be out of U. S. 1. This specification is a factor with Muscats, and will prevent lots from being graded which contain many long straggly stems, with practically no berries on them except a few hard, completely dried-out ones.

(continued over)

(4) Under the color requirements for Juice grapes, 75% of the grapes in each container of black varieties shall show color characteristic of the variety. Under the old grades 75% of the lot had to meet these requirements. This permitted the grapes in some containers to be all very poor color, provided 75% of the lot showed characteristic color.

(5) The definition of "fairly well colored" for "Red Varieties" has been changed by making the percentage 60% instead of 75%, as follows: "Red Varieties"- that 60 percent of the grapes in any container shall have at least half of the surface of the berries showing characteristic color.

This change will affect the Tokays more than any other variety. The change was made because the former color requirements for red varieties was higher for Juice stock than for Table.

Outside of the last-mentioned change, the others have all been inserted to make the grades, especially the U. S. 1 grade on black juice varieties (particularly Zinfandels), more satisfactory, and should result in most cars of U. S. 1 stock arriving in the markets in a satisfactory condition.

CHANGES IN THE TABLE GRADES

Many small changes have been made in the Table grades. The ones which will affect the market inspectors most, are the raising of the sugar test for certain varieties in the Fancy, excluding from Fancy grade stock showing "damage by discoloration," and the change in the color requirements for Fancy grade on white varieties. These changes should be studied carefully.

U. S. FANCY GRADE

(1) The maturity requirement for U. S. Fancy grade has been changed from "matured" to "WELL MATURED," as defined as in grades for table grapes, meaning that each bunch of grapes shall show a sugar test of not less than SEVENTEEN PER CENT soluble solids in juice, as determined by the Balling or Brix scale hydrometer, provided that MUSCAT, MALAGA, AND THOMPSON SEEDLESS shall show not less than TWENTY PER CENT. The old requirement for Fancy was that all varieties shall show 17%, excepting Emperor, Gros Colman, Pierce Isabella, Olivette Blanche, Ladyfinger, Khalili, Persian 23 and Cornichon.

The raising of the sugar test requirement on certain varieties has resulted in raising the standard for Malagas and Thompsons. Stock which formerly graded Fancy now often goes as No. 1, because it lacks the 20% test. To date, few cars of these varieties have met Fancy grade, on account of test or color, but shippers in general are satisfied that the requirement is a good thing.

(2) The term "FREE FROM DAMAGE CAUSED BY DISCOLORATION" has been added to the Fancy grade and defined as meaning than not more than 15% by count of the berries on any bunch shall show a dark-brown discoloration. Sunkissed berries of an amber or light-brown color shall not be considered

as damaged. This specification has been added to the grades to handle stock showing a large percentage of berries on the bunches affected with a heavy dark-brown dicoloration, which is an advanced stage of sunkissed. The light sunkissed condition is generally considered desirable.

This condition caused some trouble on Malagas last season, and it now looks as if some Malagas may show the same dark discolored condition this season. This is not a defect in the No. 1 grade, and even in the Fancy grade inspectors should be careful not to score stock which shows the light brown desirable sunkissed condition.

(3) A requirement has been added to Fancy grade that "EXCESSIVELY SMALL BUNCHES SHALL NOT BE ALLOWED, EXCEPTING A SUFFICIENT NUMBER OF SMALL BUNCHES TO ALLOW A PROPERLY-PACKED CONTAINER."

This is intended to allow there or four small bunches per package to be used to fill up corners in the baskets, and allows the inspector to throw lots out of Fancy grade which show the bottoms of the baskets generally filled with small bunches. This requirement is being used by the inspectors to discourage packing houses from packing such lots, but has not actually resulted in lots being thrown out of grade.

(4) The tolerance for decay in the Fancy grade has been changed from 1% to ONE-HALF OF ONE PER CENT. The old tolerance was more than needed by a good packing crew. The new tolerance means that only an occasional berry can be decayed and should insure better arrivals on the markets of all cars grading U. S. Fancy.

(5) A new heading, "Packing Requirements," has been added to the grades. This requirement states that "GRAPES, WHEN PACKED IN CRATES, SHALL HAVE THE STEMS SUFFICIENTLY WILTED TO INSURE A FULL PACK WITHOUT INJURY TO STEMS OR BERRIES." This requirement applies to both the Fancy and the No. 1 Table grade. When grapes are packed before the stems have had a chance to wilt, there is a tendency to loosen the berries from the capstems, and also it is difficult to make the pack tight. This requirement applies only to stock which is packed in crates.

(6) The Fancy grade requires that the grapes be "well colored." For WHITE TABLE VARIETIES, the meaning of "WELL COLORED" has been changed to read: "THAT EACH BUNCH SHALL HAVE NOT LESS THAN 25%, BY COUNT, OF BERRIES SHOWING STRAW OR AMBER COLOR; EXCEPTING THAT, IN ORDER TO ALLOW FOR VARIATIONS INCIDENT TO PROPER GRADING AND HANDLING, NOT MORE THAN 10%, BY WEIGHT, OF THE BUNCHES IN ANY LOT MAY BE BELOW THIS REQUIREMENT. NO STRAW OR AMBER COLOR SHALL BE REQUIRED FOR ALMERIA AND VERDAL." The former grade required 50% straw or amber color for Thompsons, 40% for Muscats, 25% for Malagas and other varieties except Verdal, which required none.

The requirement was lowered from 50% to 25% straw or amber for Thompsons, as it was found last year that, when Thompsons reach 50% amber, they often have hung on the vines so long that the berries shatter easily, and are not as desirable as others which fail to grade Fancy. A requirement of 25% straw or amber, with the 20% minimum sugar test for Fancy Thompsons, has proved quite satisfactory and it is found that, when they are sweet enough to meet this test, the color usually will be satisfactory. There have been few cars of Thompsons

(continued over)

or Malagas certified Fancy as yet. Either the color or sugar-test requirement has thrown them into No 1 grade.

(7) Under the definition for "fairly well colored" inconnection with red Table requirements, the tolerance for off-colored bunches has been reduced from 20% to TEN PER CENT. This was done, as a tolerance of 20% was found to be so large that it defeated the purpose of the requirement.

CHANGES IN THE SAWDUST-PACK GRADE

Several small changes have been made in the U. S. Fancy Sawdust Pack grade, but the only one that will change the method of inspection greatly is the change in the sugar test. The changes are as follows:

(1) The term "mature" has been changed to "WELL MATURED," and this defined:"as applied to grapes, means that each bunch of grapes shall show a SUGAR TEST OF NOT LESS THAN SEVENTEEN PER CENT SOLUBLE SOLIDS IN JUICE, as determined by the Balling or Brix scale hydrometer, provided that MALAGAS SHALL SHOW NOT LESS THAN TWENTY PER CENT; and as applied to stems, means that they shall be firm and pliable but not limp or flabby, (GENERALLY OF A YELLOWISH GREEN OR STRAW COLOR) and having brownish, woody seals at the cut ends."

This changes the former sugar test of 16 for Emperors, Malagas and Almerias, which are the varieties most commonly placed in sawdust, to 17% for Emperors and Almerias and to 20% for Malagas.

The old grade stated that "mature stems" are of a yellowish green or straw color, while the new one states that they are generally of that color. Experience of last season indicates that Emperors from some districts, especially Kern County, become mature without turning a yellowish green or straw color. Their maturity is indicated by the brownish, woody seals at the cut ends.

(2) The color requirements for white varieties have been changed to read: "NO STRAW OR AMBER COLOR SHALL BE REQUIRED FOR ALMERIAS." The old grades required 25% straw or amber color for Almerias, the same as for Malagas or other white varieties.

(3) The requirement "FREE FROM DAMAGE CAUSED BY DISCOLORATION" has been added to the grades and defined in the same way as in the U. S. Fancy Table grade, as follows: "DAMAGE CAUSED BY DISCOLORATION MEANS THAT MORE THAN 15%,BY COUNT, OF THE BERRIES, ON ANY BUNCH SHOW A DARK BROWN DISCOLORATION. SUNKISSED BERRIES OF AN AMBER OR LIGHT BROWN COLOR SHALL NOT BE CONSIDERED AS DAMAGED."

This requirement has never been a factor on any variety except Malagas and, as the amount of Malagas packed in Sawdust is not very heavy, this specification probably will not be important in the Sawdust Pack.

1½c. FOREIGN MARKET NEWS.

The Foreign Marketing Section has issued the following additional reports: F.S.:A-62, "Outlook for American Apples on the German Market." F.S.:A-63, "Large Apple Crop in British Columbia." F.S.:W-9, "European Walnut Prospects."

2c. SHORTEN WIRES REQUESTING SHIPPING-POINT INFORMATION.

In order to shorten wires, requesting shipping-point certificate information on cars on which reinspection is requested, it is suggested that wires of this kind to Washington all read: "Report Pacific nine five six four, listed tenth," - instead of :"Please wire shipping-point inspection Pacific, etc."

3c. SULPHUR INJURY ON CALIFORNIA GRAPES.

Another letter of August 31, from Mr. Conklin, tells about the sulphur injury to grapes in California:

"When grapes are sulphured late in the season and the weather is hot, there often is injury to the berries. This injury is a common one on Muscats, and this season it also is reported to be bad on Tokays.

"The injury may occur on a few or on many berries of affected bunches. It appears as a comewhat circular spot of solid color, with a definite outline. At first the spot is a dark-brown color, but often turns to a black color and may become hard, dry and show cracks in the skin. The spots usually are small, but may cover almost the entire berry.

"On Muscats the spots are most commonly a dark-brown color, resulting in a discoloration only. If the spots occur on only a few berries, they are no factor in the Juice grades. However, if they occur on enough berries in a lug to affect the general appearance of the lug, they are scored as a minor defect.

"On Table grapes, if the injury is of the dry hard type, it is scored like sunburn, while, if it is of the more common type of discoloration only, it is scored like other scars.

"Sulphur injury is distinguished easily from mildew scars, Spanish Measles, or sunkissed in that the spots are definite in outline, stand out prominently from the rest of the berry, and are of a solid color instead of being made up of streaks or lines.

"This type of sulphur injury is entirely unrelated to the injury from burning sulphur in cars, which is described in the market circular on grapes."

4c. CAR NUMBER ON UNLOADED LOTS.

With reference to Par. 1c.,D.L. for July 16, the following should be carefully read:

Wherever possible the inspectors' notes, covering lots that have been inspected either at a warehouse, cold-storage plant, or store after unloading from a car, should show the car number. In recording this certificate, the car number given by the applicant should be recorded in the usual way in the car-record book.

In every case, the inspector should indicate under "Products Inspected" any identifying marks by which the lot could be readily recognized or identified. Occasionally the receiver will want to show freight receipts or even an affidavit, In order to establish the fact that the certificate covers the lot in question. These facts should be inserted in the inspectors' notes but no mention of affidavit should be made upon the certificate.

5c. USE OF U. S. COMMERCIAL APPLE GRADE.

The U. S. Commercial Apple Grade was provided for use on lots which failed to show the color required by the U. S. No. 1 grade. This applies particularly to export apples. Such lots should not be certified "U. S. No. 1, except for color." They should be certified "U. S. Commercial," with the statement: "fails to meet requirements U. S. No. 1 only on account color." This additional statement will give all of the information required to show the real quality of the fruit. The term "U. S. No. 1, except for color" was permitted last year in the case of apples which were intended for export, but it was found that not all such apples went into export, and confusion resulted when such lots went into domestic markets. The use of this exception in connection with the U. S. No. 1 grade, therefore, is discontinued.

6c. USE OF TERM "FIRM RIPE" IN DESCRIBING APPLES.

For some time, there has been a demand on the part of the trade for the use of the term "firm ripe" to describe apples which are ripe enough to eat but still firm to pressure. It has been decided to use this term in the future in describing the state of maturity indicated by the following definition. It will be noted that the definition for the term "ripe" has been changed somewhat, and indicates a slightly more-advanced stage of maturity than formerly. This was necessary in order to make a place for the "firm ripe" stage of maturity. The maturity terms for apples, as they will be used the coming season, are as follows:

IMMATURE, meaning not fully matured. In some cases, it would be desirable to describe such apples further as being shriveled.

HARD, meaning mature but with flesh tenacious (or still tough) and of starchy flavor.

FIRM, meaning with flesh somewhat tenacious or becoming crisp, with no starchy flavor, except in Delicious.

FIRM RIPE, meaning with flesh crisp except that, in apples of the Gano, Ben Davis and Rome types, the flesh may be slightly mealy.

RIPE, meaning mealy and soon to become soft for the variety.

DEAD RIPE, meaning quite mealy or soft; past commercial utility.

7c. MORE NEWS ON INDIANA INSPECTIONS.

Writing from Warsaw, Ind., on September 4, F. M. Lyle advised that the onion inspection work is opening rather slowly. Excessive rainfall in parts of the State last week retarded the harvesting of this crop and, in some places, had damaged the white onions. Fields were flooded and deposits of clay on top of the muck soil adhered to the bulbs so tightly that it may be difficult to remove entirely, even in the curing and handling process. Peach inspections around Vincennes, in southern Indiana, were heavier than Mr. Lyle first expected, but are now completed.

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

TEMPORARY HEADQUARTERS OF SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION DEALS

State	Federal Supervisor	Products	Approx. date of Opening	Closing
IOWA:	C. D. Shirley, St. Ansgar, Ia.	Onions	Aug. 16	Sept. 30
INDIANA:	F. M. Lyle, County Agent's Office. Warsaw, Ind.	Onions	Sept. 7	Dec. 4
COLORADO:	N. D. Sanborn, A. S. Mason, Rocky Ford, Colo.	Cantaloupes	Aug. 9	Sept. 30
PENNSYLVANIA:	D. M. James, 586 Lincoln Way East, Chambersburg, Pa.	Peaches Apples	Aug. 23 Sept. 1	Sept. 15 Oct. 30
WEST VIRGINIA: W. MARYLAND:	J. J. Gardner, Berkeley Hotel, Martinsburg, W. Va.	Peaches Apples	Sept. 1 Sept. 7	Sept. 20 Oct. 30
VIRGINIA:	F. S. Kinsey, 605 Nat'l Bank Bldg. Charlottesville, Va.	Peaches Apples	Sept. 1 Sept. 7	Sept. 20 Oct. 30
MICHIGAN:	J. A. Marks, Benton Harbor, Mich.	Grapes Peaches	Sept. 10 Sept. 10	Oct. 9 Oct. 2
NEW YORK:	A. E. Mercker, 415 Triangle Bldg. Rochester, N. Y.	Apples Onions Pears Peaches Potatoes Grapes Cabbage	Sept. 15 Sept. 15 Sept. 15 Sept. 15 Sept. 15 Sept. 15 Sept. 15	May 1 Apr. 1 Oct. 30 Oct. 15 May 1 Oct. 30 Mar. 1

OFFICE NOTES:

Herbert L. Geer, of Massachusetts, has been appointed as an Assistant Marketing Specialist, and reported for duty this week in the New York office of the Inspection Service. Mr. Geer received his B.S. degree from Massachusetts Agricultural College in 1921. He has had experience on fruit farms in Michigan and at Wenatchee, Wash., and has been a licensee in the cooperative shipping-point inspection work throughout the Southeast. Mr. Geer also served for a while as Horticultural Adviser with the Farm Bureau at Cape Cod, Mass., and worked at the Agricultural Experiment Station, Clemson College, S. C. Recently he has been taking post-graduate work in Plant Pathology at West Virginia University. Mr. Geer's experience and training make him especially valuable at this time with the apple-export work in New York.

Walter A. Hilgeson, of the State of Washington, also has been given an appointment as Assistant Marketing Specialist, and will report for duty about September 20 in the Chicago inspection office. Mr. Hilgeson has had long experience in fruit and produce growing and marketing in various parts of Washington. He has worked on the ranch and in the city distributing markets, and knows both ends of the produce industry. He completed a course in the Marketing of Fruits and Vegetables with the American Institute of Agriculture, Chicago.

The list of temporary field stations of the Market News Service is not being published in this D.L., because there have been practically no changes since last week's list (page 481) was issued. Reports at Rochester were expected to begin today, instead of September 7. J.G. Scott has gone to Pocomoke City and H. E. Rutland to Presque Isle. W. G. Lensen will remain in New York City to handle S. W. Russell's work, while the latter is on leave. W. H. Stanton returned to duty this week, following his annual leave.

R. G. Hill left Wednesday for Salisbury and other points on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, where he will assist Wm. E. Lewis with the inspection work on cannery tomatoes.

Since A. E. Mercker left North Carolina, H. H. Henderson, of the Norfolk office, is supervising the shipping-point inspection work on sweet potatoes in the Elizabeth City section of North Carolina. This work probably will be completed by September 18.

W. J. Bertush, of the Chicago staff, has gone to Cleveland to assist with inspections in that market for a short time.

H. L. Harrington has gone from Chicago to New York City, to help with the rush of inspection work in that market. A. S. Mason, who has been supervising inspections of cantaloupes in Colorado, also will proceed to New York next week, and assist there until the reopening of the Wichita office.

OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

H. A. Spilman expects to go to Atlantic City, N.J., next Thursday for a meeting of weights and measures officials of that State. He will talk on the standardization of containers.

J. A. Hunter, in charge of the Grand Junction, Colo., field station of the News Service, attended the local Rotary Club meeting on Wednesday noon, September 1, and gave an informal talk on the market reporting work, with special reference to peaches.

Mrs. Helen M. Sweeney is being given a temporary appointment to help with the heavy work on inspection certificates in Mr. Robb's section.

R. C. Lindstrom, of the Chicago staff, will go to Gypsum, Ohio, for a day or two, in order to inaugurate the shipping-point inspection of peaches.

Older members of the staff, who have been located in Washington at any time, will remember Capt. T. F. Powell, who was connected with the Transportation Division until 1917 and who then went to the War Dept. We regret to report Capt. Powell's death on Monday, after an operation at Walter Reed Hospital.

R. C. Butner, of the Chicago office, planned to spend this Friday and Saturady with J. A. Marks, at Benton Harbor, Mich., helping to get the shipping-point inspection work started on grapes and peaches.

The Chicago office has been issuing daily peach-market reports during the southern Illinois season, but that service was discontinued on Wednesday and a short review of the deal was published by W. H. Hall. Onion and cabbage reports, for the benefit of northern Indiana onion people and southeastern Wisconsin cabbage shippers and growers, will be started by Mr. Hall next week.

J. G. Cross expects to go to Norfolk and Richmond, Va., the middle of next week, to confer with railroad officials regarding shipment reports.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 7, NO. 38
Sept. 17, 1926
(Contents Confidential)

1a. NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN STANDARD TRADING RULES PROJECT.

Up to Thursday noon, signed Agreements under the recommended U. S. Standard Trading Rules had been received from 595 persons and firms, and additional ones are coming in every mail. The status of the plan is as follows: Secretary Jardine, before leaving Washington on an extended trip, gave orders that, if Justice Bailey's action was favorable to the Government, the contract should be printed and mailed immediately. This was done, but meantime Justice Bailey has entertained an amended bill of complaint upon which he expressed a desire to hear further argument. He then left on his vacation and may not be back for two or three weeks. This leaves the case in the same legal status as prior to the former argument.

The Department is under no legal obligation to alter or postpone its action, but, as a matter of courtesy to the Court, the contracts have not yet been countersigned and the certificates of registration have not been mailed. Meanwhile, we are not sending out follow-up letters and hope that our men will continue to avoid solicitation, as in the past. We are, however, continuing the distribution of blank contracts to all interested parties and are glad to have them brought to the attention of any who may be interested and who have not received copies. The original order was largely used in the first distribution. We probably have enough copies to supply actual demands until the reprint, which has been ordered, is delivered.

Meantime, the Department has been informally requested by both parties to an important controversy to arbitrate a matter, and papers necessary to this action are in course of preparation. Further information on this particular case will be given as it progresses.

WELLS A. SHERMAN,
Specialist in Charge,
Fruit and Vegetable Division.

2a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR SEPTEMBER 11:

Page 165 - Lettuce and Potatoes Close Higher. - (weekly review)
166 - Eastern Shore Sweet Potatoes Arriving, - by H. E. Rutland.
167 - Good Cantaloupes in Colorado, - by W. F. Cox.
- Another Market News Field Station.
- Maryland-Delaware Cantaloupe Deal Closing, -by H.E. Rutland.
- Inspections for the Navy and Marine Corps. (annual summary)
168 - From Failure to Success. (New Mexico Sweet Potato Growers)
- Texas Citrus Exchange Growing.
171 - Farm Prices Compared.
176 - European Walnut Prospects.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. UNUSUAL POTATO SITUATION IN FORT WORTH MARKET.

W. D. Googe gave the following interesting report in a letter of September 11:

"The Fort Worth potato dealers state that the marketing of northwestern potatoes in this section so far this season has been very much out of the ordinary. Frequently, the local market has been out of line with the shipping points and northern markets. Jobbers have been very conservative buyers, thinking prices would decline, and the result has been that practically no surplus stock has accumulated. The demand has been for spot cars or those that can be delivered within 24 hours, and quotations on cars for Denver diversion usually represent a discount of 10¢, with few takers. Fort Worth track holdings during August averaged around 10 cars daily and during September five cars daily, whereas in other years the number of cars on track daily would run from 20 to 50. Practically all arrivals here are unloaded or diverted within 24 hours. The cotton-picking season is always relied upon to stimulate the demand, and this year other harvesting and industrial activities are above normal. The retailers have moved their stocks readily, and the wholesaler has not been able to accumulate any surplus potatoes. Speculating has been conspicuously absent, the dealers preferring to buy what they need for immediate delivery. Some of the carlot distributors state they are unable to analyze the market, and some consider it a decidedly healthy condition."

2b. COLORADO LETTUCE DEAL SLOWING DOWN.

Information from Mr. Calhoun, of the Denver office, under date of September 10 indicates that the season's total shipments of Colorado lettuce may run below the record of 3,060 cars established last year. Prices declined after their recent high level, but shippers were optimistic concerning the deal, at least until the 25th of this month, when heavy movement will be over. Colorado shipments will decrease about as rapidly as those from California increase.

3b. ADDITIONAL SUMMARIES:

Two additional summaries of field deals issued during the week are: MARKETING WESTERN NEW YORK CARROTS, Season of 1925-26, by A. E. Prugh, and CENTRAL NORTH CAROLINA POTATO DEAL, Season of 1925, by H. E. Rutland. This last summary should not be given publicity, as only a few copies have been mimeographed and it is not for general distribution.

4b. GRADES SENT FOR DISTRIBUTION.

A supply of the revised U.S. grades for Barreled Apples and for Potatoes has been mailed to each market and field station interested. These are for general distribution to the mailing lists.

5b.

COLORADO POTATO SITUATION.

Interesting news on potatoes was received from the Denver office in a letter of September 10:

"Contrary to indications of three or four weeks ago, the general predictions are coming true that the San Luis Valley could not repeat on its wonderful crop of 1925. Hot, dry weather hit the Valley and caused rather premature ripening and laying down of the vines. Also, the famous San Luis Valley 'sub' was lost, and the resulting lack of moisture was largely responsible for the checking of the growth and the early maturity of the tubers.

"I presume that you are somewhat familar with the sub-irrigation methods that are general through most of the farming districts of that section. The water table is quite close to the top of the ground, and early in the summer heavy irrigation is applied to bring it within reach of the crops. Then, for the remainder of the growing season, water is run constantly in ditches from 100 to 300 feet apart, to feed this underground reservoir and to 'hold up the sub.' But, with the excessive heat and dry weather of the latter part of August, this supplementary supply was inadequate to offset the excessive evaporation, and the 'sub' was lost. The only remedy would have been general irrigations again, and, with the potatoes as far along as they were, this would have caused second growth, growth cracks, etc., and, anyway, the supply of irrigation water also was low by that time.

"So, while some fields are running better size than anticipated, the general yield will be considerably under what it would have been with normal growing conditions. General estimates place the shipments for this season at 60% to 75% of last year's movement of 7,200 cars. Then, for the finishing touch, the frosts of the 4th and 5th killed the tops, stopping any further growth that might have been made. It now appears probable that shipments from the Valley from this crop will not exceed 5,000 cars. The Brown Beautys especially will be of only medium size, but, being well matured, the quality should be good. Digging on the Beautys is heavy now, and the Peachblows are starting. The Valley popped out 68 cars on the 7th and 66 on the 8th. The early crop of Cobblers and Triumphs was quite satisfactory, the Triumphs especially yielding heavier than usual, with several fields making 200 sack records.

"I have heard only general reports from the northern Colorado potato districts, but they were to the effect that the crop is doing well and a good yield is expected. Hollow-hearts probably will be as general as in the 1924 crop, for the tubers are making large size. If they get by without field freezing, shipments from that district undoubtedly will be heavier than a year ago.

"The Morrill-Mitchell district of western Nebraska report rather spotted conditions. Quality is generally good, but some fields are turning out very ordinary stock,—worm-tracked, scabby, second growth, etc."

"In a wire of September 14, Mr. Calhoun added: "Visited Greeley yesterday afternoon. Northern Colorado potatoes, fair yield and quality expected. Yield undoubtedly less than last year's exceptionally large crop, account fewer tubers per plant. But this is offset by frost damage last October to 30 or 35 per cent of crop, so that the marketable crop this season expected to equal and probably slightly exceed shipments year ago of about 3,200 cars."

E. V. STILLWELL,
Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

Stations	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletins	Probably will close
POCOMOKE CITY, MD.** Peninsula Bldg.	878	J. G. Scott	Berries*	May 21	June 18*
			Potatoes*	June 14	Aug. 4*
			Cants.*	Aug. 6	Aug. 14*
			Sweets.	Aug. 16	Oct. 9
FRESNO, CALIF.** Sequoia Hotel	919	C. E. Schultz	Grapes	Aug. 5	Nov. 10
GRAND JUNCTION, COLO.** Chamber of Commerce MAIL: P.O. Box 300	846	J. A. Hunter	Pears	Aug. 10	Sept. 30
			Potatoes	Aug. 10	Oct. 30
			Peaches	Aug. 16	Sept. 18
			Apples	Sept. 14	Oct. 30
			Onions	Sept. 20	Oct. 30
ROCKY FORD, COLO. Gobin Block	821	W. F. Cox	Cants.	Aug. 16	Sept. 25
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	A. E. Prugh	Apples	Aug 23	Mar. 31
BENTON HARBOR, MICH.** 403 Fidelity Bldg.	838	R. H. Shoemaker	Pears	Sept. 8	Oct. 2
			Apples	Sept. 8	Oct. 2
			Grapes	Sept. 8	Oct. 2
			Peaches	Sept. 8	Oct. 2
			Potatoes	Sept. 15	Oct. 2
			Onions	Sept. 20	Oct. 2
ROCHESTER, N.Y.** 419 Triangle Bldg.	837	J. D. Evers	Apples	Sept. 9	May 28
			Cabbage	Sept. 9	Mar. 12
			Celery	Sept. 13	Jan. 22
			Carrots	Sept. 13	Apr. 15
			Pears	Sept. 15	Oct. 30
			Onions	Sept. 20	Apr. 15
			Peaches	Oct. 1	Oct. 31
			Potatoes	Oct. 1	May 28
WAUPACA, WIS.** Court House	894	G. D. Clark	Potatoes	Sept. 13	Apr. 2
PRESQUE ISLE, ME.	842	H. E. Rutland	Potatoes	Sept. 14	Mar. 31
MARTINSBURG, W. VA.	835	R.L. Sutton	Apples	Sept. 21	Nov. 6

** State cooperating

*Reports discontinued

W. G. Lensen in New York office

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. MECHANICAL ERROR IN MIMEOGRAPHING EASTERN GRAPE GRADES.

The attention of all offices was called by wire to a mechanical error in mimeographing some sheets of the grades for American Bunch Grapes. The incorrect copies lacked the last two lines on both pages, including the tolerance for straggly bunches in U. S. No.1 grade. The mistake was caused by the operator, as the stencil was correct.

If there are any offices which have not received correct copies of these grades, please advise this office at once. Be sure to discard incorrect copies.

2c. REQUESTING SHIPPING-POINT INFORMATION ON CALIFORNIA CARS.

Since California lists of inspected cars are reported by districts, it will be a saving of time to this office if requests for reports on shipping-point inspected cars from this State give the district under which the cars were listed. The date of the list also should be given.

3c. GIVE STATE OF ORIGIN WHEN REQUESTING SHIPPING-POINT INFORMATION.

Several requests were received during the past week for shipping-point information without giving the name of the State of origin. Failure to give this information necessitates a great additional amount of work in this office. The date of the list on which the car number appeared also should be given. Please give attention to these details.

4c. WATCH D. L. FOR CHANGES OF HEADQUARTERS OF SHIPPING-POINT SUPERVISORS.

Advice has been received from several shipping-point supervisors in the last few weeks to the effect that they did not receive wires regarding the reversals of shipping-point certificates or copies of the reinspection certificates. This is due sometimes to failure on the part of receiving offices to note changes in addresses. Remember that it is highly important that this information be sent to shipping-point inspector promptly, in order that he may be as well informed about the action taken in the receiving market as the shipper, who always receives prompt information from his representative in the market.

5c. PEACH INSPECTION WORK STARTED AT GYPSUM, OHIO.

Shipping-point inspection of peaches was started last week at Gypsum. The work is being done by H. J. Speaker, of the State Department. Mr. Lindstrom, of the Chicago office, spent September 10 and 11 at Gypsum, helping to start this work. Any reports of reinspections on peaches from this territory should be addressed to R. C. Butner, at the Chicago office.

The Ohio peach season is considerably later than last year. Up to September 11, only 31 cars had been shipped, compared with 345 to the same time a year ago and 516 cars all of last season.

6c. A WARNING ABOUT ALICANTE BOUSCHET GRAPES.

On September 6, F. F. Conklin, Jr., wrote from Fresno, Calif., as follows:

"I just returned from a trip to the Shafter district and noticed a condition on Alicante Bouschet juice grapes, which may result in some of the market inspectors failing to identify this variety.

"Alicantes usually are used to mix with other varieties, to give the wine a red color. Usually, the juice is rather thick and of a deep red color. Many of the Alicantes in the Shafter district are of a good, characteristic, black color and are typical in all other ways except that the juice is quite thin and very light red.

"This stock is definitely of Alicante variety, and meets all requirements for U.S. 1 Juice. However, some receivers undoubtedly will object to it on account of lack of color in the juice, and they may try to prove by market inspection that it is not of Alicante variety.

"Alicantes in many other districts have the usual thick, red juice, while in others it is rather light-colored."

7c. INTERESTING EXPORT WORK AT SAN FRANCISCO.

California Inspectors' Notes, dated September 10, contains the following interesting letter from Frank Powell:

"The first shipment of California onions for the Australian market this year went from this port on the steamer Sonoma August 30. The cargo, weighing 500 tons, initiated the 'reciprocal' shipments between the two countries and is a reminder that Australia is on the other side of the equator from us and that her seasons are, therefore, the reverse of ours. Cargoes of Australian-grown onions will begin reaching San Francisco next January.

"This office inspected about 7% of this shipment, the exact amount being 7,171 sacks of 100 pounds each, or about 26½ car-loads. The inspections were made on the pier, where crews of Chinese worked day and night, screening, sorting, and sacking the onions.

"Total inspections for the week ending August 28 were 55½ cars and last week we had 33 cars in San Francisco and the Colma District. It looks like a heavy month here, as we will have a large order on onions going to New Zealand and more to Australia, the S. S. Tahiti leaving for the former country today and the S. S. Waitapu on the 8th, for Australia. The lifting of the foot-and-mouth embargo by New Zealand went into effect on September 1, and this is the first movement of vegetables to that country for two years or more.

"Another shipment of fresh pears, sealed in the air-tight cans (5,000 in all), was inspected yesterday for export to London, England. The shipment of 1,200 cans, inspected a few weeks ago, is due to arrive in London in a day or two."

7½c. MANY INSPECTIONS IN CALIFORNIA.

California inspections are now running heavy, according to a report fr the Sacramento office. During the week ended September 4, more than 3,500 ca were inspected, nearly all of them being grapes.

RECEIVING-POINT INSPECTIONS DURING AUGUST, 1926.

Markets	Total Inspections	Total Same Month 1925	Inspections for Carriers	Declined for Lack of Time.	Total Fees
Atlanta	43	48	1	0	$175.00
Baltimore	44	41	3	0	166.00
Boston	134	111	59	1	555.00
Buffalo	27	31	5	0	109.50
Chicago	139	140	0	0	616.00
Cincinnati	63	24	0	0	283.50
Cleveland	113	179	28	0	591.00
Columbus	21	17	0	2	82.50
Denver	8	4	0	0	32.00
Detroit	204	111	32	0	829.50
Harrisburg	1	0	0	0	4.00
Indianapolis	23	23	4	0	96.00
Jacksonville	21	-	0	0	85.00
Kansas City	91	39	69	0	410.00
Los Angeles	10	6	0	2	47.50
Memphis	24	36	13	0	98.00
Milwaukee	47	37	9	0	182.00
Minneapolis	28	41	0	0	114.50
Newark	31	22	0	0	124.00
New Haven	43	31	14	0	188.00
New Orleans	158	107	110	0	670.00
New York	381	388	78	0	1428.13
Norfolk	3	13	1	0	12.00
Omaha	32	27	16	0	134.00
Philadelphia	54	73	8	0	211.00
Pittsburgh	158	224	15	9	689.50
Portland	7	8	1	0	29.00
St. Louis	84	93	12	0	353.00
Salt Lake City	3	1	1	0	10.50
San Francisco	1	1	0	0	4.00
Washington	21	25	4	0	86.00
Wilkes Barre	30	14	19	3	131.00
Total	2047	1915	502	17	$8547.13

8c. GRADE PAMPHLETS BEING DISTRIBUTED.

With this D.L., all inspectors who probably will have need for them are being sent copies of two pamphlets, as follows:

"New York State Apple Grading Law and Its Application," -Circular 306, New York State Dept. of Farms and Markets, July, 1926.

"Recommended Standards for Grading, Packing and Inspection of Virginia Apples, Season 1926," - by the Division of Markets, Richmond, Va.

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

INSPECTIONS FOR THE NAVY AND MARINE CORPS DURING AUGUST, 1926.

SYMBOLS N - NAVY M - MARINE CORPS	ALL FIGURES IN THESE COLUMNS REPRESENT POUNDS									
	Fruits and Vegetables PASSED		Fruits and Vegetables REJECTED		TOTAL QUANTITY INSPECTED		"Cuts" Made to comply with Specifications		Items Billed Short-weight	
STATIONS	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M
BOSTON	-	0	-	0	163991	0	0	0	0	0
NEWPORT	318109	0	45617	0	363726	0	1053	0	0	0
NEW YORK	302257	81732	9008	330	311265	82062	114	0	0	0
NORFOLK	NO SUPPLY SHIPS LOADED AT NORFOLK DURING THE MONTH									
PHILADELPHIA	256538	33688	5358	131	261896	33819	1153	214	0	0
SAN DIEGO	261849	92385	8490	193	270339	92578	2777	1346	0	0
SAN FRANCISCO	477108	0	40000	0	517108	0	300	0	0	0
VALLEJO	192711	40651	3559	329	196270	40980	198	0	0	0
WASHINGTON	77314	0	245	0	77559	0	175	0	0	0
TOTALS	1685886	248456	11227	983	2162154	249439	5770	1560	0	0
INSPECTIONS MADE FOR U. S. SHIPPING BOARD.										
NEW YORK	36363		75		36438		0		0	
NORFOLK	17989		0		17989		0		0	
TOTALS	54352		75		54427		0		0	

The New York office also inspected the following:

	Vegetables	Fruits	Rejected
United States Lines	374188	233010	52113
Munson Line	59071	13089	1082
American France Line	15222	2608	2550
American Diamond Line	13292	3248	1800
American Merchant Line	25348	10004	165
Total	487121	261959	57710

The Vallejo office also inspected bread for the Navy as follows:

Passed	Rejected
25924	325

OFFICE NOTES:

Hunter S. Moles has been appointed as an Assistant Marketing Specialist, and will report for duty in the Chicago office of the Inspection Service onSeptember 20. Mr. Moles' legal residence is New Mexico. He received the B.S. degree from Colorado Agricultural College in 1913, and then operated his own fruit farm in Colorado until 1917. Subsequently, Mr. Moles has been employed as a County Agent and as Assistant Director of Extension Work, New Mexico Agricultural College.

Gerald R. Blount, of North Carolina, also has been given appointment as an Assistant Marketing Specialist and will report at the New York office of the Inspection Service about October 1. Mr. Blount received his B.S. degree from the State College at Raleigh, N. C., in 1924. He has had experience in farming, and for two years during the war served in the U.S. Army. After graduation from College, he was employed as inspector by the Sandhill Fruit Growers and later did similar work in the Federal-state inspection service in North Carolina. Since May, 1924, Mr. Blount has been with the State Division of Markets, as an inspector of fruits and vegetables.

T. R. Merrill, after assisting with inspection work in Detroit for a few months, has returned to his headquarters in Chicago. W. J. Bertush, who was in Cleveland a short while, also has gone back to Chicago, and O. N. Strauss has gone there from Indianapolis. Mr. Strauss was substituting for B. H. Rowell in Indianapolis and also took his own annual leave at that point.

Among inspectors who have recently gone to New York City, to assist with the rush of work in that market, are K. W. Schaible, of the Chicago staff, and A. H. Polster, of Philadelphia. M. L. Henry has returned to New York City after several weeks' of special work for the Navy at Newport, R. I.

Bolling Hall was a visitor in the Washington office this week, en route from New York City to his new headquarters at Charlotte, N. C. He expected to go first to Waynesville, N.C. , for a few days' leave.

Mr. Clay, of the Washington staff, plans to go to Medina, Ohio, next week for the Root-Langstroth Memorial Meeting of Beekeepers, which will be held on September 21,22 and 23. On Thursday, he will give an address on the subject: "Increasing the Beekeepers' Profits."

Upon the return of W. E. Harrison from annual leave, R. L. Sutton, who has been substituting in Baltimore, will come to the Washington office a day or two next week and then go to Martinsburg, W. Va., to issue market reports on apples.

H. F. Willson, of the Atlanta office, is being transferred to the Inspection project and will proceed at once to New York City, to assist with inspections there. Mr. Willson was a member of the recent training class.

In the second paragraph of item 7c on page 504, it is assumed that the 7% is intended for 70%. The article was copied exactly as written.

OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

Mr. Pailthorp went to Eastern Shore of Maryland points this week, to cooperate with Wm. E. Lewis in the inspection work on cannery tomatoes. Within a few days, they both will go to New Jersey to investigate the possibilities of similar inspection service for packers in that State. R. G. Hill, who assisted on the Eastern Shore a few days, has returned to Washington.

J. Wm. Park has gone to New York City and is cooperating there with the men who are making a statistical study of the marketing of peaches. He will give special attention to determining what data are already available and the methods of securing additional information which is needed. One of the principal objects of this investigation is to determine the saturation point for peaches in certain eastern markets. W. H. Stanton, of the New York office, also is assisting in this special study.

O. N. Harsha, of the Boston office, is spending a few days in Aroostook County, Maine, inaugurating the cooperative shipping-point inspection service on potatoes.

G. W. Payne will change his headquarters from Boston to New York City next week.

A. S. Mason, who is en route from Rocky Ford, Colo., to New York City, drove a Government-owned automobile as far as Martinsburg, W. Va., and left it there for the use of J. J. Gardner, on apple inspection work.

F. S. Zimmerman, of the New York staff, returned to Delaware this week to check up the inspection work on grapes and late apples at shipping points in that State. Mr. Zimmerman is the Federal supervising inspector for Delaware. He probably will return to New York City the end of this week.

Inspection work on New Jersey potatoes and peaches is about completed for this season, according to word from W. C. Lynn, of the Trenton office.

A. E. Prugh, is expected to reach Spokane, Wash., early next week, and will then be in charge of the northwestern apple-market-reporting work for this season. He has been handling the cooperative service on prunes in the vicinity of Boise, Idaho.

No list of the temporary headquarters of supervising inspectors in the field is published in this D.L., because so few changes have taken place since last week's list, on page 495. A. S. Mason's name should be cancelled under Rocky Ford, Colo., and the opening dates for inspection of western New York products should be made a little later, under the heading of Rochester.

Publication of revised address lists of the permanent branch offices of the Market News Service and the Inspection Service has been delayed a little longer, to permit the inclusion of certain changes expected to occur in the near future.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 7, NO. 39.
Sept. 24, 1926.
(Contents Confidential)

1a. INTERESTING EXPERIMENTAL WORK ON COLORADO POTATOES.

On his trip to Greeley, Colo., September 13, Wendell Calhoun visited the experimental farms, and conferred with W. C. Edmundson, in charge. Two important projects under way are investigations as to the time of planting potatoes in northern Colorado and the time of irrigation. Mr. Edmundson claims that the set of tubers can be controlled largely by the time of irrigation.

Irrigation water from the streams usually runs low in early July, and later irrigation must come from the highly-developed system of reservoirs. It has been the general practice of growers to hold this reservoir water until August. Mr. Edmundson believes this to be a mistake, as the tuber set is made in July, and, if plants run low on moisture then, a light set results. Field trials at the farm over a period of several years have given an increased yield of 77 bushels per acre from an irrigation on July 8 - 10, as compared with August 1, and about 35 bushels increase, compared with irrigation around July 15 - 20. Some years, the natural conditions are more favorable than other years, but the experimental farm has very good yields this season, while the yield on farms throughout the district is relatively light.

Mr. Edmundson also proved that, when Triumphs are planted about June 12, they yield more heavily than when planted earlier, as the crop matures in cooler weather, when growing conditions are more favorable. Districts that go after the early markets usually find it more profitable to sacrifice yield for price, but there is an increasing proportion of main-crop Triumphs, as they yield well and bring a premium over the Greeley whites.

The general potato situation in northern Colorado is about as indicated by Mr. Calhoun in Par. 5b. of last week's Division Letter. Conditions are rather spotted but the set is generally light. Movement of early Triumphs and Cobblers, however, has already exceeded 750 cars, and total shipments from the district doubtless will be greater than those of the 1925 season.

2a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR SEPTEMBER 18:

Page 181 - Production Gains; Prices Lower. (weekly review)
182 - Cauliflower situation in Oregon, - by R. L. Ringer.
183 - Successful Illinois Peach Season, - by W. H. Hall.
- Plenty of Citrus Fruits.
- Georgia Melons Sold in Thirty States.
- Cooperative Potato Sales in Michigan.
- Canadian Turnips.
- Canada's apple crop. (filler)
184 - Colorado Produce Active, - by Wendell Calhoun.
- Outlook for American Apples on the German Market.
- Michigan Apple Season Late, - by R. H. Shoemaker.
192 - British Apple Market, Wednesday, September 8.

(Page 509)

3a. A RECORD YIELD OF POTATOES.

C. J. Hansen, of the San Francisco office, sent the following information in a letter of September 18:-

"What is claimed to be a world's record of potatoes has been produced on McDonald Island by Zuckerman Brothers this year. One acre produced 61,420 pounds of potatoes, or 1,023 2/3 bushels of 60 pounds each. It is said that these averaged 95% No. 1 potatoes. About 25,000 sacks, averaging 120 pounds each, were sold on the day they were dug, for seed, at $3.50 per sack."

4a. VIEW OF CIRCUIT-COURT JUDGE KENYON ON ARBITRATION.

In connection with the arbitration feature of the Standard Trading Rules, the following legal report on another case may be of interest:-

On July 22, 1925, the Circuit Court of Appeals, Eighth Circuit, in deciding the case of the Wabash Ry. Co. v. American Refrigerator Transit Co., 7 F. (2d) 335, speaking through Judge Kenyon said:

"Arbitration is favored by the courts. It is a mode of settling disputes less expensive and more expeditious than court procedure. In these days of long-drawn-out litigation and ever-increasing expense of trial, it may well become a special favorite of the law. Here were serious questions productive of litigation. The parties entered into an agreement that they should be considered and determined by an eminent and learned lawyer. He did so, and rendered his decision. The submission of the matter carried with it an implied agreement to be bound thereby. There is no claim made that the decision of the arbitrator was the result of fraud, partiality, misfeasance, or palpable mistake, resulting in an injustice to either party, or that the arbitrator went beyond the scope of the questions submitted. If the statements of fact of the amended bill are to prevail, we see no reason why the parties to the arbitration are not bound as to the questions submitted to and determined by the arbitrator, and precluded from again agitating them. (Several cases cited.) Every reasonable intendment is indulged in favor of such an award. (Several cases cited.)

"There is a clear distinction between enforcing an agreement to arbitrate that may deprive a court of its jurisdiction, and enforcing an award of an arbitrator selected and agreed upon by the respective parties. N. P. Sloan Co. v. Standard Chemical & Oil Co., 256 F. 451. 167 C.C.A.579."

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. SPECIAL REPORT ON THE POTATO SITUATION:

A special five-page mimeographed report on the "Potato Market Situation," illustrated with a chart and supplemented with statistical tables, was prepared a few days ago and copies mailed to all market and field stations. This is for duplication and distribution to the names on all potato mailing lists.

2b. CHANGES ON "NO" PAGE OF CODE.

On the "NO" (Pears) page of the code, change

NOW - 5/8 bu. hampers, to read: 2 1/4 inch minimum.
UW - Choice, to read: C grade.

These changes are effective on Thursday, September 30.

3b. NEWS ON COLORADO LETTUCE.

Mr. Calhoun wired from Denver on September 21 as follows:

"Most Colorado lettuce, now ready for harvest, has been damaged by frosts that have been general since early September. Most stock badly tip-burned and showing slime. Much of this has been shipped, but movement now being greatly reduced. However, considerable late acreage might yet make, with favorable weather. Estimates by factors in the deal indicate from 150 to 300 cars yet to be shipped, depending on weather of next three weeks. Quality and condition will be only fair to ordinary on most of the remaining shipments; 2,400 cars shipped to date."

4b. BASIS OF POTATO QUOTATIONS IN COLORADO.

Some interesting correspondence has been exchanged between the Denver office and the Grand Junction field station, regarding the best basis of sale to quote in the market reports on potatoes. Mr. Calhoun, of Denver, has given a good explanation of the terms used in the San Luis Valley of southern Colorado and in the Greeley section of northern Colorado:

"The difference in these quotations," says Mr. Calhoun, "is the difference in custom. In northern Colorado, the buyer takes the potatoes at the car door and 'bucks them back' himself, while in the San Luis Valley the grower orders and loads the car, and very often sells it to the highest bidder after it is loaded, especially during the digging season, when he is loading just as he digs. The northern Colorado basis of sale is called 'wagonloads cash to grower' and the San Luis Valley quotation 'carloads cash track to grower.' In the Valley, practically every car is inspected and sold by the certificate. I have known of a grower to hold cars two or three days after they were loaded, before he accepted bids on them. In the Greeley district, the potatoes are bought almost entirely in the field or in the dugout. But, in either case, after the grower receives his cash, he should worry what the 'f.o.b. usual terms' market is. All he watches is our terminal quotations, and, believe me, the growers do watch those market prices."

4½b. SUMMARY OF 1925-26 MAINE POTATO SEASON.

The latest summary to be distributed is that of the 1925-26 Maine Potato Season, by H. E. Rutland.

5b. FRUIT AND VEGETABLE SITUATION IN WESTERN NEW YORK.

Under date of September 13, J. D. Evers sent a detailed report of a field trip which he and A. L. Thomas took from Rochester through the fruit belt and the muckland district of western New York. Briefly, he advises that all fruit crops are greatly delayed. Supplies will be abundant, except of pears. The pear crop is about 1,000,000 bushels lighter than last year. F.o.b. prices of Seckels for future delivery have been quoted at $2.50 per bushel, and Bartletts at $1.85-$2.00. First cars moved about the middle of the month, and N.Y. shipments to date are only one-third of last year's output to this time.

Duchess apples were being harvested, and Wealthys began about the 20th of September, with Greenings starting October 1. This is two or three weeks later than last season. Heavy production of summer and early fall varieties resulted in a draggy market. The apple crop is of good quality and seems to be generally free of disease and insect injury. Western New York peaches are only now beginning to be shipped, - two weeks later than during the 1925 season. Heavy foliage on the trees has held back the coloring of the fruit, particularly the Elbertas. The crop is expected to be a half-million bushels greater than last year's crop.

Domestic-type cabbage has met a sluggish market, with some improvement, however, during the past week or 10 days. Farmers were being encouraged to draw their cabbage; so that the kraut-cutting season may be longer than usual. Danish cabbage should start moving by October 1.

Carrot movement was getting heavier, though yields in the Elba district will be relatively light, on account of damage by windstorms early in the growing period. The important carrot acreage in Wayne County is said to be 15% greater than last year. Carrots in the rough were being quoted on wire orders at $1.00 sacked per 100 pounds, or 60¢ a bushel basket.

With respect to celery, Mr. Evers wrote as follows:

"With an increased acreage and higher yield per acre, a heavier movement of New York celery is expected to take place this season. Some slight damage has been wrought by rainy weather the past few weeks, causing the leaves to turn yellow in many instances. Shipments have already started on early varieties, best stock bringing high as $1.50 f.o.b. usual terms for 2/3 crates, while ordinary stock has sold as low as $1.20. There is a report that the new strain, 'Woodruff Wonderful,' is being grown more extensively than in previous seasons. There is an especially heavy acreage of this variety in the Williamson and Ontario section of Wayne County. This strain was first introduced about three years ago and since than has become very popular. It is an early variety that can be kept in storage tha same as the late varieties; it blanches well and has good heart-formation."

6b. ADDITIONAL FOREIGN MARKET NEWS:

The Foreign Marketing Section has issued recently the following special mimeographed reports: F.S.:A-64, "Argentine Market for American Apples." F.S.:A-65, "The British Apple Market." F.S.:P-17, "Large French Prune Crop Expected." F.S.:AL-18, "Notes on the European Almond Situation." F.S.:A-66, "The British Apple Market."

E. W. STILLWELL,
Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

Stations	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably will close
POCOMOKE CITY, MD.** Peninsula Bldg.	878	J. G. Scott	Berries*	May 21	June 18*
			Potatoes*	June 14	Aug. 4*
			Cants.*	Aug. 6	Aug. 14*
			Sweets.	Aug. 16	Oct. 9
FRESNO, CALIF.** Sequoia Hotel	919	C. E. Schultz	Grapes	Aug. 5	Nov. 10
GRAND JUNCTION, COLO.** Chamber of Commerce MAIL: P.O. Box 300	846	J.A. Hunter	Pears	Aug. 10	Sept. 30
			Potatoes	Aug. 10	Oct. 30
			Peaches*	Aug. 16	Sept. 18*
			Apples	Sept.15	Oct. 30
			Onions	Sept.20	Oct. 30
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	A. E. Prugh Mrs.L.B. Gerry	Apples	Aug. 23	Mar. 31
BENTON HARBOR, MICH.** 403 Fidelity Bldg.	838	R. H. Shoemaker	Pears	Sept. 8	Oct. 2
			Apples	Sept. 8	Oct. 2
			Grapes	Sept. 8	Oct. 2
			Peaches	Sept. 8	Oct. 2
			Potatoes	Sept.16	Oct. 2
			Onions	Sept.16	Oct. 2
ROCHESTER, N. Y.** 419 Triangle Bldg.	837	J. D. Evers	Apples	Sept.10	May. 28
			Cabbage	Sept.10	Mar. 12
			Celery	Sept.13	Jan. 22
			Carrots	Sept.14	Apr. 15
			Lettuce	Sept.14	Sept.30
			Pears	Sept.15	Oct. 30
			Onions	Sept.20	Apr. 15
			Peaches	Sept.23	Oct. 30
			Potatoes	Oct. 1	May. 28
WAUPACA, WIS.** Court House	894	G. D. Clark	Potatoes	Sept.14	Apr. 2
PRESQUE ISLE, ME., Graves Hardware Block	842	H. E. Rutland	Potatoes	Sept.15	Mar. 31
MARTINSBURG, W. VA.	835	R. L. Sutton	Apples	Sept.23	Nov. 6

The following station closes on date indicated:

ROCKY FORD,COLO.	821	W. F. Cox	Cants.	Aug. 16	Sept.25

** State cooperating. *Reports discontinued.

W. G. Lensen in New York office. W. F. Cox in Denver office.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. NOTES ON "SUNKISSED" GRAPES IN CALIFORNIA.

In a letter of September 14, from Fresno, Mr. Conklin gave the following information of importance to inspectors:

"'Sunkissed' is a light form of sunburning. Berries showing a light brown or amber color, from 'sunkissed,' are high in sugar, attractive in appearance, and desirable. Berries showing a dark brown color from 'sunkissed' are unattractive, as they give the bunch a spotted appearance; sometimes they are slightly wrinkled like an early stage of raisining, and , if held, they may become slightly shriveled like raisining berries, while berries on the same bunch which are not 'sunkissed' will remain plump and firm.

"I believe that the heavy dark-brown type of 'sunkissed' is undesirable, but it is very difficult to decide exactly where to draw the line between the desirable stage and the undesirable one. Some of the highest-quality Malagas, showing a very desirable amber color, are 'sunkissed.' Other Malagas, from districts which never develop high-colored, attractive stock, seem to show very little 'sunkissed.' So, market inspectors should be careful not to start scoring 'sunkissed' as a defect, unless it actually is of the dark-brown type.

"'Sunkissed' stock is more common this year than last. We have thrown quite a number of cars of Malagas from Fancy to No. 1 grade on this account. However, we often find on careful examination that bunches having many 'sunkissed' berries are within the tolerance for U.S. Fancy of 15% dark discoloration. Malaga bunches often weigh 1⅓ lbs. to 2½ lbs., and, figuring that Malagas berries weigh about ten berries to one-tenth of a pound, there will be 150 to 250 berries to the bunch. With the tolerance of 15% by count, 22 to 38 berries, on bunches weighing 1½ to 2½ lbs., could show dark discoloration, and in addition many more berries could have a light-brown desirable 'sunkissed' appearance. As 'sunkissed' berries are always on the outside of the bunch and usually on one side only, and as bunches showing some dark discolored berries also always show some light 'sunkissed' berries, the tolerance, if properly applied, is quite liberal."

2c. COPIES ON CALIFORNIA GRAPES DESIRED BY MR. CONKLIN.

The following wire was received from E. E. Conklin, Jr., whose headquarters are at the Sequoia Hotel, Fresno, Calif.:

"If possible, desire have all market inspectors send me at Fresno copies of all California grape condition inspections, same as last year. Chicago only office doing this at present."

3c. CALIFORNIA GRAPE INSPECTIONS PROBABLY PAST THEIR PEAK.

Several items in California Inspectors' Notes, dated September 17, give the impression that the grape-inspection deal in that State will not be so large as first expected. For the week ended September 11, nearly 5,040 cars were inspected, compared with 3,543 the preceding week. Many districts report that the "inspection deal this season has seen its best days."

Some varieties are cleaning up, and the unfavorable market situation makes some shippers reluctant to ship other varieties. The fairly good market for table Tokays has resulted in many of these grapes going into crates without inspection. Present prospects are that the weekly total inspections will not reach the high figure of 5,800 cars attained during late September, 1925, and some of the local inspectors are already being laid off. An increase in bearing grape vines of over 50,000 acres this year practically offsets the shortage in yield. Much of the added juice-grape production consists of young Alicantes, just coming into bearing.

4c. REPORT CLAIMS AGAINST NORFOLK PRODUCE FIRM.

Advice was received some time ago that the firm of Joseph H. Baker & Company, Inc. of Norfolk, was in the hands of receivers. A claim for fees owed the Department by this firm was immediately presented to the referee in bankruptcy. Since that time, we have received notice of fees owed by this firm for inspections made by another office. Before presenting claims for these fees, we desire to know whether any other offices have outstanding bills against this firm. Unless word of such additional claims is received by September 30, the above-mentioned claim will be filed. Please check up your unpaid bills.

5c. NEW BULLETIN ON APPLE SCALD.

About the middle of the month, Dept. Circular No. 396 came from the press. Its title is "The Control of Apple Scald with Shredded Oiled Paper," and joint authors are Charles Brooks and J. S. Cooley, of B.P.I. This circular discusses the use of shredded oiled paper for the control of apple scald in barreled apples. Copies can be obtained from the Office of Information, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Washington.

6c. GRADES BEING SENT TO INSPECTORS:

Under separate cover, all inspectors will receive within the next day or two, if not earlier, copies of the following 11 leaflets and booklets:

"Official Standards for the Inspection of Potatoes,"-the revised U.S. potato grades.
"Official Grades for the Standardization of Utah Farm Products, 1926."
"Official Handbook of the Division of Horticulture, State of Montana, September, 1923."
"Oregon Standards for Grading, Packing, Certification and Package of Apples, Pears, Prunes, Peaches and Grapes, 1926."
"Michigan Apple Grades." "Michigan Peach Grades."
"Michigan Standard Grades for Pears." "Michigan Grape Grades."
"Michigan Standard Grades for Potatoes."
"U.S. Grade for Cantaloupes," issued by Michigan Dept.
"General Law Governing the Shipment of Fruits and Vegetables in Mich."

7c. CERTIFICATES GET MAN OUT OF JAIL.

Some time ago a Los Angeles man was acting as agent for a group of banana growers in Mexico. He shipped 15 cars of the fruit to the Los Angeles market. It happened that other supplies were heavy at that time and the market was poor. It also happened that these bananas had not carried very well and arrived in rather bad condition. The growers were so greatly disappointed over the small returns, that they believed the agent to be guilty of an unfair transaction, and had him arrested and put in jail in Mexico. An appeal through the American Consul reached H. A. Harris, of the Los Angeles office, and, as fortune had it, these cars of bananas were inspected by Mr. Harris and he was able to render a certificate as to their condition and as to the glutted market. The report from our Los Angeles office was the means of effecting the agent's release and he safely returned to the United States. On September 15, he wrote Mr. Harris a letter of thanks as follows:

"Just a few lines to say I am in 'God's Country' once again. I certainly appreciate your excellent reports, furnished the American Consulate at Mexico City. They were instrumental in getting me out of a rotten mess in Mexico. It goes without saying that the U.S. inspections are of great value to shippers and the trade in general, as your great work and speed in my case was certainly a God-send. Let me say I am very grateful and appreciate same, and I take this means to show my gratitude by writing you this letter. These fellows tried to railroad me to jail, and your inspections and certificates are responsible for my release and my being back home in'God's Country.'"

8c. AN INTERESTING INSPECTION IN MISSOURI.

On September 18, K. S. Branch, of the Kansas City office, wrote an interesting and vivid account of a recent inspection of apples, which he made in an orchard in northwestern Missouri. Several insurance companies in that section are settling some of their hail-damage claims on the basis of U.S. grades and Federal inspection. Mr. Branch has certified various samples of apples, sent to his office by the insurance companies for this purpose, but the present case is the first time he had to go to the orchard.

The owner would not permit the special agent of the insurance company to take any samples from the orchard; so, this agent requested Mr. Branch to go with him to the scene of the trouble. That portion of the State had recently been flooded and the apple trees were located on rolling ground. Between the hills were canals of water 100 to 400 feet wide and from ankle to waist deep. There was nothing to do but to wade the young streams, with water up to the waist. The insurance agent and Mr. Branch, according to the report, presented a strange sight, when stripped for action in this wading-swimming contest. After crossing four streams and finally arriving at one of the orchards for inspection, large mosquitoes were so numerous and so active that Mr. Branch says his skin looked as if he had been "exposed to Anthracnose, and it took."

Apples in two orchards had to be inspected. One was a Jonathan orchard of 30 acres and the other a Ben Davis orchard of 40 acres. The first was handled without any difficulty, but the swimming began when it was necessary to visit the Ben Davis orchard. Inspection was as follows: 25 apples

TEMPORARY HEADQUARTERS OF SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION DEALS.

State	Federal Supervisor	Products	Approx. date of Opening	Closing
IOWA:	C. D. Shirley, St. Ansgar, Ia.	Onions	Aug 16	Sept. 30
INDIANA:	F. M. Lyle, County Agent's Office, Warsaw, Ind.	Onions	Sept. 7	Dec. 4
COLORADO:	N. D. Sanborn, Rocky Ford, Colo.	Cantaloupes	Aug. 9	Sept. 30
PENNSYLVANIA:	D. M. James, 586 Lincoln Way East, Chambersburg, Pa.	Peaches*	Aug. 23	Sept. 20*
		Apples	Sept. 1	Oct. 30
WEST VIRGINIA: W. MARYLAND:	J. J. Gardner, Berkeley Hotel, Martinsburg, W. Va.	Peaches*	Sept. 1	Sept. 20*
		Apples	Sept. 7	Oct. 30
VIRGINIA:	F. S. Kinsey, 605 Nat'l Bank Bldg., Charlottesville, Va.	Peaches*	Sept. 1	Sept. 20*
		Apples	Sept. 7	Oct. 30
MICHIGAN:	J. A. Marks, Benton Harbor, Mich.	Grapes	Sept. 10	Oct. 9
		Peaches	Sept. 10	Oct. 2
NEW YORK:	A. E. Mercker, 415 Triangle Bldg., Rochester, N. Y.	Apples	Sept. 20	May. 1
		Onions	Sept. 20	Apr. 1
		Pears	Sept. 20	Oct. 30
		Peaches	Sept. 20	Oct. 15
		Potatoes	Sept. 20	May. 1
		Grapes	Sept. 20	Oct. 30
		Cabbage	Sept. 20	Mar. 1

were picked from opposite sides of five trees, one tree in each corner of the orchard and one tree in the approximate center, making a total of 250 apples. These were first graded according to hail damage only. Then they were graded regardless of hail damage, and in that way the depreciation from hail damage was ascertained.

On arrival at Kansas City about midnight, the insurance agent's comment was: "Well, Branch, we did it, anyhow!" Mr. Branch thinks that, if many inspections have to be made in flooded orchards, diving suits(or at least bathing suits) ought to be furnished as part of the standard equipment.

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Robb went to New York City on Tuesday evening, and spent Wednesday and Thursday in conference with inspectors in that market.

G. A. DeHaver left Washington last Saturday, and is visiting the shipping sections around Rochester, N.Y., and Benton Harbor, Mich., to obtain additional information on movement by truck. He may be absent two weeks.

After attending the beekeepers' meeting at Medina, Ohio, Mr. Clay spent this Friday and Saturday at the Rochester office, and will be at the New York office Monday and in Philadelphia Tuesday, reaching Washington again by Wednesday.

H. A. Spilman is scheduled to go to Lynchburg, Va., this Saturday, to confer with local officials and growers regarding a farmers' market project, which is under way in that city.

After working with the Inspection Service during his sabbatical year, H. W. Schneck has gone on a week's leave and then will return to duty at Cornell University, College of Agriculture, where he is assistant professor in vegetable gardening.

Miss Helen M. Walsh, clerk-typist in the Boston inspection office, resigned on September 20, after three years' service.

Next week, R. C. Butner, Regional Supervisor in Chicago, expects to visit the Columbus and Cincinnati offices of the Inspection Service, and then take a few days' leave at Lexington, Ky. On the return trip to Chicago, he will stop at the Indianapolis office and also confer with F. M. Lyle, in charge of shipping-point work at Warsaw, Ind.

O. G. Strauss was delayed a few days in reporting to Chicago, because of an operation for tonsil trouble at Indianapolis.

It is understood that J. R. Duncan has recovered sufficiently from his recent illness to resume charge of the inspection work in San Diego at the end of this week. C. R. Newton, who substituted in that market, will take 10 days' annual leave before returning to his headquarters in Louisiana.

Miss Lucy Watt, of the Washington Market News staff, has just returned from 10 days' leave, spent chiefly at Atlantic City.

Mrs. Evelyn Copeland, formerly a temporary clerk in the F. & V. Division, has been reappointed, to assist with the rush of work on inspection certificates.

After closing the field station at Rocky Ford this Saturday, W. F. Cox will go to the Denver office for a short while. It is expected that he will finally report at Idaho Falls and operate the news service on potatoes, but the opening date for Idaho Falls is undetermined, pending negotiations for financial assistance from State and local interests.

OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

Please note the following shifts among Market News personnel: On the return of S. W. Russell from annual leave early next week, W. G. Lensen will proceed to Pocomoke City, Md., and take over the market reporting work on Eastern Shore sweet potatoes. J. G. Scott, now at Pocomoke City, will go to his permanent assignment in Denver, stopping at Washington one day en route. Wendell Calhoun, who has been handling the Denver news service for several months, will proceed to Grand Junction as soon as Mr. Scott has become acquainted with the Denver market. J. Austen Hunter, now in charge at Grand Junction, will then return to his headquarters at San Antonio, Texas, preparatory to reopening the cooperative news service there about November 1.

Last Tuesday, H. A. Harris, of the Los Angeles office, went to Oxnard, Calif., and gave a talk on marketing, before the Oxnard Rotary Club.

R. M. Peterson, of Minneapolis, visited the Kellogg trucking section of Minnesota on Wednesday, to look into the crop situation there and to arrange for price reports.

In submitting an application blank for market reports from the Portland office, a potato grower in Oregon said: "Your market news letter saved me $1,000 last year."

N. D. Sanborn will return to Denver about October 1, and again handle the receiving-point inspections in that market. The remaining work on melon inspections in the Rocky Ford district will be handled by licensees, under Mr. Sanborn's direction.

As soon as Mr. Sanborn reaches Denver, M. C. Gregory will start for Fort Worth, Texas, to reopen the inspection office there. However, he will stop in Oklahoma long enough to inaugurate the shipping-point inspection service on Oklahoma sweet potatoes.

It has been decided to place W. H. Steinbauer in permanent charge of the Boston inspection office, effective about September 27. Please note this on your list of inspectors. The work in Newark, N.J., will be handled temporarily from New York City.

L. D. Mills, inspector at WILKES-BARRE, PA., advises that his office address has been changed from Room 226 to Room 242, Miners' Bank Building, Wilkes-Barre. These new headquarters are with the Chamber of Commerce. Please note this change on all address lists.

W. F. Plummer is absent on account of illness, and M. L. Henry, of the New York staff, has gone to New Haven to substitute for Mr. Plummer. W. C. Hangstafer has gone from New York City to Boston, to assist with inspection work there until the arrival of W. H. Steinbauer next week.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 7, NO. 40
Oct. 1, 1926.
(Contents Confidential)

1a. TOO MANY "DEALS."

English exceeds all other languages in the number of its words. It excels all others in the expression of exact shades of meaning, when its words are chosen wisely. English-speaking people have less excuse than any others for the crude and blundering use of words which do not express accurately the thought of the speaker nor convey exactly the right idea to the hearer. New English words are coming into use constantly, and occasionally a new meaning attaches to an old word. Such changes are desirable when they meet real needs.

The produce dealer who operates in a succession of crops, or in the same crop in several localities in successive periods, likens his year's work to a game of cards and calls the business of each separate district, or his operations in each separate crop, a "deal." To him it is one unit of operations which contributes its quota of success or failure to the outcome of the entire game or gamble of the year. Dictionaries do not recognize this use of the word "deal" but it is briefly expressive of the operator's thought and the implied analogy between his business and a game of cards does in fact exist. For these reasons I have defended the use of this word in this connection in official publications.

However, our use of "deal" has degenerated into rank abuse. It has become a handy refuge from the necessity of saying just what we mean. Dozens of cases can be cited in the reports and mimeographed letters of our employees and cooperators, which illustrate this unfortunate fact. We shall try to correct some of these by stating the negative side:-

1. The Louisiana strawberry grower does not have a "strawberry deal," nor does he participate in one. He has a strawberry crop, which constitutes for him the whole "game." It is the result of his year's work. Therefore, never say that "the producers did well on the deal."

2. No market news representative has a "deal" or handles a "deal" or reports on a "deal." He has an "assignment," he handles a "station" and he reports on "the marketing of a crop." His summary goes far beyond the "deal" in the sense in which the dealer uses the term.

There is little or nothing in the program of our field men which resembles a card game, and we have no excuse for substituting its terms for the plain English which describes what we do.

3. The element of chance is being reduced constantly in our inspection work. More and more we have contracts and bonds which take the major risk out of our field operations. The inspector has relatively little excuse for borrowing the card player's language. A supervising inspector supervises a "force" or a "district" or the inspection of a product. He, like the inspector under him, works for fixed wages. Neither is taking chances on the outcome of his operations. They are not working on a "deal" but at a "job." The

individual inspector has absolutely no excuse for calling his job a "deal." The supervisor may be defended if he refers to the whole volume of operations in a certain district as "deal," especially after it is over.

Applying these principles, we conclude that nine-tenths of our use of this word is unjustified, either by analogy or as a figure of speech. When we travel in advance of the dictionary, we should follow carefully the guide whom we have chosen. The dealer uses "deal" to cover a group of transactions and experiences, because he has no other single word to cover them. Let us use the word only under precisely similar circumstances.

WELLS A. SHERMAN,
Specialist in Charge,
Fruit and Vegetable Division.

2a. STATUS OF STANDARD TRADING RULES CASE.

On Thursday morning in the District Supreme Court, Justice Bailey heard a brief argument on the Government's motion to dismiss the amended bill of complaint against the Secretary, with reference to the Standard Trading Rules project. The Government lost in its effort to have the bill dismissed, as Justice Bailey decided that he would hear arguments on the bill of complaint itself at some future date.

3a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR SEPTEMBER 25:

Page 197 - Plenty of Fall Cabbage; - weekly review.
199 - An Additional Market News Field Station.
- New York Fruit Movement Delayed, - by J. D. Evers.
- Onions Shipped to Australia, - by F. A. Powell.
200 - Sorting Fruits and Vegetables; based on address by H. W. Samson.
- More Vegetables in Western New York, - by J. D. Evers.

4a. SEPTEMBER SUPPLEMENT TO "CROPS AND MARKETS."

The September Supplement to "Crops and Markets" was received from the Printing Office early this week, and copies have been mailed to all persons on the list.

5a. DATE CHANGED FOR OCTOBER CROP REPORT.

Please note on the front page of the September Supplement to "Crops and Markets" that the next crop report will be released on Monday, October 11, at 3 P.M., instead of on October 9, as originally scheduled.

6a. ADDITIONAL REPORTS ON FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS:

Recent mimeographed reports include the following:- F.S.:A-67, "The British Apple Market." F.S.:P-18, "Yugoslav Prune Export Surplus Increased." F.S.:P-20, "French Prune Crop Estimate Less Optimistic." F.S.:W-10, "Walnut Situation in Southern Italy." F.S.:F-33, "Canada Establishes Minimum Values for Duty Purposes on Imported Fruits and Vegetables." F.S.:P-19, "Small Purchases of Yugoslav Prunes." F.S.:A-68, "Early British Apple Prices and the Coal Strike."

7a. FROST DAMAGE IN WEST.

The first two telegrams given below are dated September 25, and the third wire is dated September 28:

From R. L. Ringer, Portland:- "Temperature dropped to 20° in Yakima Valley two nights. Killed potato vines, probably resulting 500 cars less production. Some stock near surface frozen in fields.

From Wendell Calhoun, Denver:-"General frost and freeze last night Northern Colorado killed all potato vines but no injury to potatoes. San Luis Valley no particular injury except to exposed or very shallow tubers. Wyoming eastern seed potato districts probably 10% frost damage and will make stock uncertain for seed purposes. Northwestern Nebraska temperature 12°; not as cold Alliance, but probably 10% loss there. Pocatello, Idaho, reported 20° but reports not yet received of extent damage there. Colorado lettuce some districts quite severe freeze; others mild. Unable to determine extent of loss until thaws out. Probably hit Moffat districts quite severely, but doubtful if serious loss. In San Luis Valley, however, most lettuce already has had about all frost can stand, and this will get some of it."

From N. D. Sanborn, Rocky Ford:- "Freeze here 24th cut off half to three-fourths approximately 500 cars unshipped crop. Bulk of remaining stock mostly Honey Dew melons be shipped this week; few scattering cars continuing until about October 10th. Will go to Denver last this week."

8a. LATER NEWS ON THE WESTERN FREEZE:

Telegrams of September 27, ffom Mr. Calhoun, at Denver, give the following additional information:-

"Colorado lettuce quite badly damaged with frost in northern districts, and San Luis Valley crop badly tip-burned and slimy, due both to frost and hot weather. General rains Sunday would aggrevate damage. Weather turning off nice now (Monday), and some shipments will continue for some time yet. Present shipments largely from accumulations in sheds and expected to be lighter this week. Quality of most remaining stock will be very ordinary, and local shippers say so far as commercial importance the deal is practically finished. No frost loss Colorado potatoes. Vines all killed and digging expected to be heavy. Western Nebraska (Morrill - Mitchell) reports sufficient field damage that stock cannot be shipped from field. Few reports from Idaho indicate loss up to 10%, also 10% loss in yield, account vines killed, expecially on Burbanks. Other stations minimize loss but apparently there was some degree of damage that district."

"Colorado and Utah tomatoes practically finished by freeze. Severity of frost unexpected and very few supplies were saved, even for local use. Brokers already offering California stock on Denver market, which homegrowns usually supply until November."

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. NOTES ON WISCONSIN POTATOES.

In a recent letter from Waupaca, Wis., G. D. Clark advised that prospects are fair for the production of a crop of good-quality potatoes in that State this year. There was so much wet weather during September that some rot may develop. The weather also has been very hot, part of the time.

2b. REVISED SHIPMENT SHEETS FOR 1925.

The section compiling carlot shipment reports in Washington has just had mimeographed the revised figures for 1925. These sheets show monthly shipments from each State; there is a separate sheet for each of 38 fruits and vegetables. The new sheets are dated July 1. Tabulations issued earlier in the year should be discarded.

3b. HANDBOOK ON FLORIDA PRODUCTS.

To anyone who has real NEED of detailed information on Florida products the following booklet, issued by the State Dept. of Agriculture at Tallahassee, will be of interest: "Handbook for Florida Growers and Shippers"-Supplement to Florida Quarterly Bulletin of the Department of Agriculture, July 1926. Information is given in alphabetical order on 22 vegetables and 7 fruits, grown in Florida. Each product is discussed briefly under the following headings:

Variety	Cost	Minimum
Location	Season	Seasonal Prices.
Planting	Container	Market Preferences
Fertilizer	Sizes	Competition
Maturity	Arrangement	Shipments
Yield	Loading	Miscellaneous

4b. STORM DAMAGE IN FLORIDA.

Official estimates have not been issued of the damage to citrus in Florida by the hurricane of last week, but one of the large dealers in that State put out the following unofficial report:-Estimated loss to grapefruit, 5,450 cars, or 27%, reducing the probable commercial crop to 14,500 cars. It appears that possibly 1,850 cars of oranges have been lost, or 7.5% of the estimated crop, reducing oranges to 23,000 cars.

5b. COMMODITY REPORTS IN WASHINGTON:

The Washington office began mimeographed market reports on Cabbage and Pears on September 10, and reports on Celery on September 13. Cantaloupe reports were discontinued for the season on September 25.

E. W. STILLWELL,
Specialist in Market News.

NOTE: Par. 3c on Page 526.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

Stations	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably will close
POCOMOKE CITY, MD.** Peninsula Bldg.	878	W. G. Lensen	Berries*	May 21	June 18*
			Potatoes*	June 14	Aug. 4*
			Canta.*	Aug. 6	Aug. 14*
			Sweets.	Aug. 16	Oct. 9
FRESNO, CALIF.** Sequoia Hotel	919	C. E. Schultz	Grapes	Aug. 5	Nov. 10
GRAND JUNCTION, COLO.** Chamber of Commerce MAIL: P.O. Box 300	846	J. A. Hunter	Pears	Aug. 10	Oct. 2
			Potatoes	Aug. 10	Oct. 30
			Peaches*	Aug. 16	Sept. 18*
			Apples	Sept.15	Oct. 30
			Onions	Sept.20	Oct. 30
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	A. E. Prugh Mrs. L.B. Gerry	Apples	Aug. 23	Mar. 31
BENTON HARBOR, MICH.** 403 Fidelity Bldg.	838	R. H. Shoemaker	Pears	Sept. 8	Oct. 23
			Apples	Sept. 8	Oct. 23
			Grapes	Sept. 8	Oct. 9
			Peaches	Sept. 8	Oct. 2
			Potatoes	Sept.16	Oct. 23
			Onions	Sept.16	Oct. 23
ROCHESTER, N.Y.** 419 Triangle Bldg.	837	J. D. Evers	Apples	Sept.10	May 28
			Cabbage	Sept.10	Mar. 12
			Celery	Sept.13	Jan.22
			Carrots	Sept.14	Apr. 15
			Lettuce	Sept.14	Oct. 2
			Pears	Sept.15	Oct. 30
			Onions	Sept.20	Apr. 15
			Peaches	Sept.23	Oct. 30
			Potatoes	Oct. 1	May 28
WAUPACA, WIS.** Court House	894	G. D. Clark	Potatoes	Sept.14	Apr. 2
PRESQUE ISLE, ME., Graves Hardware Block	842	H. E. Rutland	Potatoes	Sept.15	Mar. 31
MARTINSBURG, W. VA. Berkeley Hotel	835	R. L. Sutton	Apples	Sept.23	Nov. 6

The following station may open about date indicated:

IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO	845	W. F. Cox	Potatoes	Oct. 11	Apr. 15

** State cooperating. *Reports discontinued

J. G. Scott en route to Denver. W. F. Cox in Denver office.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. INFORMATION DESIRED ON MAINE POTATOES.

In a wire of September 29, from Caribou, Maine, O. N. Harsha said: "Would appreciate eastern market inspectors adivsing this (Caribou) office of those shipping-point-inspected cars which, inspected there, show excess of 1% average decay or doubtful grading, giving car numbers."

2c. ONION SITUATION IN OHIO AND INDIANA.

Writing from Warsaw, Ind., on September 27, F. M. Lyle told about a short visit he made last week to Ohio shipping points:

"Most of the onions in the McGuffey-Kenton section are out of the ground and under cover of some kind, as they are equipped to protect them from the weather. The movement to date has been very slow, and our inspector there, Mr. Sellers, has made only eight inspections so far. There is prospect of the total inspections there going around 400 cars, if the season is favorable, but nothing very definite can be established yet.

"The Indiana situation gets a little worse around here every day, as we continue to have rain two to three days out of each week. After the hard rains of last week, parts of several small fields were under water, but the damage fr flooding has not been extensive. The early onions likely will be saved, but the will be stained and, in many cases, stained so badly that they will not grade No.1.

"The late onions are not coming out so well, as the tops of many of them are still standing. Water has been running down these tops and into the bulb until now they are showing considerable neck rot. If we do not have a reasonable amount of sunshine before long, they may be almost a total loss."

3c. WISCONSIN POTATOES AFFECTED BY TOO MUCH RAIN.

A wire from G. D. Clark, Waupaca, Wis., under date of September 30 indicates that considerable dry rot, late blight and other forms of decay due to wet weather are developing in many parts of the State. A few buyers have closed warehouses, expecting to stay out of the business about two weeks or until decay develops, so that affected tubers can be sorted out. Much stock now being offered on the market is from the worst fields. Some local dealers are unwilling to store for grower's account. Slight freezing injury has occurred in northern part of Wisconsin, and light shipments can be expected at least another week.

4c. FLORIDA GREEN-FRUIT LAW BEING ADMINISTERED BY STATE.

Our inspectors will not be required to assist with inspections of citrus fruit this season under the Florida Green-Fruit Law. This work will be handled entirely by State men, under the direction of J. Hinton Pledger, whose headquarters are at Haines City, Fla.

TEMPORARY HEADQUARTERS OF SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION WORK.

State	Federal Supervisor	Products	Approx. date of Opening	Closing
IOWA:	C. D. Shirley, St. Ansgar, Ia.	Onions	Aug. 16	Oct. 9
INDIANA:	F. M. Lyle, County Agent's Office, Warsaw, Ind.	Onions	Sept. 7	Dec. 4
PENNSYLVANIA:	D. M. James, 586 Lincoln Way East, Chambersburg, Pa.	Peaches*	Aug. 23	Sept. 20*
		Apples	Sept. 1	Nov. 13
WEST VIRGINIA: W. MARYLAND:	J. J. Gardner, Berkeley Hotel, Martinsburg, W. Va.	Peaches*	Sept. 1	Sept. 20*
		Apples	Sept. 7	Oct. 30
VIRGINIA:	F. S. Kinsey, 605 Nat'l Bank Bldg., Charlottesville, Va.	Peaches*	Sept. 1	Sept. 20*
		Apples	Sept. 7	Oct. 30
MICHIGAN:	J. A. Marks, Benton Harbor, Mich.	Grapes,	Sept. 10	Oct. 9
		Peaches*	Sept. 10	Oct. 2*
		Apples	Sept. 10	Oct. 30
NEW YORK:	A. E. Mercker, 415 Triangle Bldg., Rochester, N.Y.	Apples	Sept. 20	May 1
		Onions	Sept. 20	Apr. 1
		Pears	Sept. 20	Oct. 30
		Peaches	Sept. 20	Oct. 15
		Potatoes	Sept. 20	May 1
		Grapes	Sept. 20	Oct. 30
		Cabbage	Sept. 20	Mar. 1
MAINE:	O. N. Harsha, Caribou, Maine.	Potatoes	Sept. 20	Apr. 15
FLORIDA:	O. G. Strauss, Orlando, Fla.	Grapefruit	Oct. 5	Apr. 15

The following station closed on date indicated:

COLORADO:	N. D. Sanborn, Rocky Ford, Colo.	Cantaloupes	Aug. 9	Sept. 30

*Inspection completed on products marked with a star.
→N. D. Sanborn returned to Denver office.

NOTE: Supervisors should send corrections of data on this page.

5c. USE OF YELLOW CERTIFICATES.

When requests for inspection of loaded cars of apples are received, it will be well to ask the applicant if the inspection is being requested for export purposes. If so, he should be informed that restricted certificates will not be accepted for this purpose and that it will be necessary to make the entire lot accessible, so that a complete certificate can be issued.

For the present, yellow certificates are to be used only on account of restriction because of loaded condition of cars and are to be issued on all cars of this kind regardless of whether the request specifically stated that inspection was for export purposes. Certificates of this kind will not be accepted by steamships as evidence of proper inspection for export. These certificates should bear the usual notation regarding the extent of the restriction.

The use of the yellow certificates should begin as soon as the forms ar received.

6c. RED CERTIFICATES:

The use of the red certificates will begin at once. For the present, advise your supervisor or the Washington office of inspections which show residues, sending samples wherever possible. Do not issue certificates of any kind on such lots until advised.

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Sherman left last night for Ithaca, N.Y., where he met today with students in the class on marketing, at the State College of Agriculture. He discussed abuses in the produce trade and methods of attempting to improve conditions. Next Monday morning, Mr. Sherman is scheduled to deliver an address before the class in Principles and Methods of Commerce, at the Wharton School of Finance and Commerce, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia. He will also confer with representatives of the F. & V. Division in that city and New York, before returning on Wednesday morning.

Gilbert A Bidelman, of Indiana, has been appointed as a Junior Marketing Specialist, and will be assigned to the Atlanta office, where he will give special attention to market news work. Mr. Bidelman is a high-school graduate and has had years of experience in farming, being engaged especially in the growing and marketing of onions. He has been employed three seasons as a shipping-point inspector in northern Indiana and in Iowa. Early in 1926, Mr. Bidelman conducted an investigation on shrinkage of onions in storage, for Purdue University.

Miss Florence G. Mannix has been appointed to the Boston staff, to fill the place made vacant by Miss Helen Walsh.

OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

Bryce Morris, of Colorado, also has been given appointment as a Junior Marketing Specialist, and is expected to report Monday at the Chicago office of the Market News Service. Mr. Morris has had high-school education, and for six years or more was engaged in the growing of potatoes and other vegetable crops. During the winter months, he graded and loaded potatoes for a produce company at Center, Colo. Mr. Morris also has been on the Colorado inspection staff for several years, assisting with the work at shipping points in that State.

Although she returned to Washington for a short period, Miss Lucy Watt did not come back to the office, but has requested three months' leave without pay, in order to help nurse a sister who is seriously ill. Miss Watt can be addressed at her home: 216 Oakland Ave., Greensburg, Pa.

Wm. E. Lewis returned to the office yesterday, after seven weeks' work on the grading of cannery tomatoes at various points on the Eastern Shore of Maryland and in Delaware. He reports this experimental service fairly successful; the Federal grades were given a thorough try-out.

W. L. Evans and H. V. DeMott, of the Domestic Wool Section, are in Boston all of this week, reauditing the 1918 accounts of a large central wool dealer, whose case is pending in court.

G. A. DeHaven returned a few days ago from southwestern Michigan, where he investigated movement of produce by truck. Yesterday he and R.G. Hill started for Rochester, N.Y., by automobile. Mr. DeHaven will study the trucking business in western New York, and Mr. Hill will make investigations relative to grades for carrots.

H. T. Longino is taking a few days' leave in Chicago, and then will proceed to Houston, Texas, where he will reopen the inspection office about October 6. He expects to stop at New Orleans for a day, to confer with the local inspector there.

In addition to stopping in Oklahoma to inaugurate sweet-potato inspection work, M. C. Gregory will take a few days' leave in Missouri, en route to Fort Worth next week. He probably will reopen the Fort Worth inspection office by October 11.

It was found unnecessary for O. G. Strauss to go to Chicago to assist with inspections in that market; so he has started for Orlando, Fla., where he will begin the shipping-point work on grapefruit next week. Mr. Strauss supervises the Florida work each fall and winter.

J. Wm. Park returned to the office this morning, after two weeks in New York City, cooperating with economists who are making a special study of the relation between market supplies and prices of peaches.

OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

J. G. Cross, in charge of transportation contacts, plans to leave about next Tuesday, for a two months' trip in the interest of shipment reports and other railroad information, first for the Livestock Division and Dairy Products Division, and later for our F. & V. Division. He will confer with transportation officials in Buffalo, Cincinnati and Cleveland. Probably a week (October 13- 20) will be spent in Chicago on similar work, and then Mr. Cross will go to St. Paul, Omaha, Kansas City, St. Louis, Springfield, Mo., and various points in Texas and Florida.

V. V. Westgate, of the Omaha office and supervisor of potato inspections in Nebraska, expected to go to northwestern Wyoming this week, and begin shipping-point inspection work on potatoes in that territory. Local inspectors will handle this service, under Mr. Westgate's supervision.

Since W. H. Steinbauer has left Newark, N.J., the market reporting work there is being cared for by F. A. Curtis, head clerk from the New York office. Inspections are being looked after, temporarily, by members of the New York staff.

H, E. Rutland advises from Presque Isle that the mailing list for potato market reports in Maine is exceptionally large this season. The service began with 1,800 names on the list, compared with 1,400 last year, and has already exceeded 2,000 names.

R. R. Pailthorp left Washington on Wednesday and went first to Pittsburgh to assist with a reinspection in that market. Then he proceeded to Martinsburg, W. Va., where he will spend a few days, investigating apple-grading practices in the fruit belt of the valley region.

Please note the personnel and the addresses, etc., on the new Market Station Address List, being distributed with this D. L. This is the first revision of the list since the spring of 1925. Kindly advise Washington at once of any errors or omissions. Discard previous lists. The inspectors' address list probably will be ready next week.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D.C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 7, NO. 41
Oct. 8, 1926.
(Contents Confidential)

1a. SPECIFICATIONS FOR F. & V. CRATES AND BOXES.

The "Schedule of Specifications for Fruit and Vegetable Crates and Boxes in Common Use in the United States," - compiled by Robert W. Davis, of Mr. Spilman's section, - has been revised and has just been re-issued in mimeographed form. The book contains 41 pages of statistical information, interesting and valuable to all engaged in the handling of these products.

Containers for more than 33 different fruits and vegetables are listed, and approximately 160 different containers are covered by the specifications. The last few pages of the revised schedule include a ready-reference summary of the specifications, which is a new feature of this report. The last page shows the container requirements as incorporated in railroad and express tariffs.

A copy of this comprehensive report is being mailed to every technical employee of the F. & V. Division. In case your copy is not received within a reasonable time, please advise Robert W. Davis, of the Washington office.

2a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR OCTOBER 2:

Page 213 - Produce Markets Dull; Shipments Lagging. (weekly review)
214 - A Record Yield of Potatoes, - by C. J. Hansen.
215 - Idaho Apple Situation, - by A. E. Prugh.
- Low Prices for New York Peaches, - by J. D. Evers.
- Publicity for Cranberries.
216 - Idaho Prune Marketing Problems, - by A. E. Prugh.
- California Prunes to be Advertised.
- Yearbook Features Fruits and Vegetables.
- Grading Affects Growing, - by H. W. Samson.
- Florida Organization Handles Many Vegetables.
218 - Smaller Crop of Walnuts in Rumania.
219 - Almonds Not to be Branded.
224 - Foreign Demand Outlook for American Fruit.

3a. NEW BULLETINS:

The Library has called attention to two bulletins recently received:

"Commerical Apple Industry of New Hampshire" - Bulletin No.223, New Hampshire Agricultural Experiment Station, Durham, N.H. Authors are G. F. Potter and H. A. Rollins.

"An Economic Study of Berry Farming in Western Washington," - Bulletin No. 204, Washington Agricultural Experiment Station, Pullman, Wash. Authors are Neil W. Johnson and George Severance.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. REVISED HANDBOOK FOR MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

The official Handbook of the Market News Service has been completely revised, and a copy of the new book is being mailed to each member of the technical staff. Be sure to lay aside the old Handbook, as it should not be used in the future. By checking the Table of Contents(first 3 pages) against the text itself, you can tell whether or not you have received the complete book.

There are few, if any, radical changes in policy, but many minor ones The book should be read through at an early date.

2b. ADDITIONAL SUMMARIES ISSUED;

The following summaries of recent shipping seasons have been distributed during the past week:

THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST BOXED APPLE DEAL, Season of 1925-26, by Geo. E. Prince and Mrs. L. B. Gerry.

IDAHO POTATOES, Season of 1925-26, by W. F. Cox.

MARKETING MICHIGAN ONIONS, Season of 1925-26, by R. H. Shoemaker.

E. R. Biddle, of the Philadelphia office, also distributed recently a comprehensive summary of the PHILADELPHIA ASPARAGUS MARKET, Season of 1926. A slight error on the cover page makes it appear as if the summary relates primarily to the 1925 season. The review includes data for 1925 and 1926.

3b. REPORT CONSISTENTLY CERTAIN VARIETIES OF APPLES.

It is difficult for the Washington office to tabulate apple prices for purposes of comparison one week with another and one season with another, unless all market representatives will make special effort to report consistently on the following varieties particularly: Eastern Baldwins and Greenings, and Northwestern Jonathans and Winesaps. Please include these varieties, in season, in all apple market reports, if possible.

4b. MARKET INFORMATION DESIRED ON PEAS.

B. H. Critchfiled, Agricultural Economist in charge of a special survey in Idaho, has made the following request:

"We have a section here in Idaho that produced 25 carloads of green peas this year, that were shipped out during August and September. In order to determine the possibilities of the industry, we would like to ascertain from the market news men the car-lot receipts of green peas at the different markets during the various weeks of August and September this year, the States of origin of the cars, the prices prevailing in the markets, and any observations they may have made on the quality and pack of the peas coming from Idaho."

All market-station men should please furnish the Washington office, as promptly as possible, such information as is available along this line.

5b. POTATO SITUATION IN WESTERN NEW YORK.

A recent report from J. D. Evers, at Rochester, gives the following information on the New York potato crop:

"Poor seed and dry weather at time of planting is responsible for the stand of potatoes being only fair, while wet weather the latter part of August caused a very large growth of vine. Reports from some of the leading sections indicate that much of the stock is still immature, and it will require a late fall to fully develop the crop. A continuance of heavy rains during September caused the appearance of late blight on a number of the lowland farms and, in some cases, rot has been reported in some fields. However, it is too early to estimate the extent of the damage, if any.

"Owing to the general belief that there will be a potato shortage throughout the country, as was the case last year, shippers anticipate a a good market for the crop. Opening prices were slightly higher than those of last season. This year on October 1, the growers were receiving $1.00 bulk per bushel for first wagonloads of Round Whites, while shippers have been asking $3.50 f.o.b. per 150-lb. sack. A year ago, the growers were receiving mostly 90¢ bulk per bushel, and f.o.b. sales on usual terms were being made at $3.00."

6b. WESTERN SLOPE OF COLORADO PRODUCE SITUATION.

Writing from Grand Junction, Colo., on September 27 and October 1, J. A. Hunter advised that Western Slope potatoes are cleaning up rather rapidly. Between 600 and 700 cars is the general estimate as to remaining shipments. Nothing had gone into storage as yet, although about 450 cars are expected to be stored in the Montrose district, beginning around October 10. The highest daily estimated movement the remainder of the season is 15 cars. Yields have been poor, averaging about 50 sacks per acre, against a normal of 125 sacks.

Apples seem to be "shot to pieces," according to Mr. Hunter. A local operator sent out 40 wires one evening, hoping to get satisfactory offers; he had but one reply, and that a very low price. This is very different from the 10 days just prior to the opening of the carlot shipping period, when demand was quite brisk. Growers are discouraged, and carlot handlers do not know whether to store any apples or to advise growers to let them hang on the trees, pending developments.

The Kieffer pear deal did not amount to much, and onion markets were dull. There is a more hopeful tone to onions, however, and some Danvers went into storage as high as 90¢ per 100 pounds to the grower. Later, the price was 80¢. Thrips affected the crop rather sericusly, and the carlot estimate has been reduced to 1,000 - 1,100 cars for the Western Slope. Some 700 cars are being stored, with optimism as to the future market.

Peaches and potatoes are the only crops this season which have made some money, and peaches are about finished. Size of the fruit this year was very small, but demand was good during the period of heavy movement.

Temperature dropped sharply on the night of September 30, but apparently little damage was done to crops. The late lettuce acreage, around Fruita, was not developing much of a crop commercially.

E. W. STILLWELL,
Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

Stations	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably will close
FRESNO, CALIF.** Sequoia Hotel	919	C. E. Schultz	Grapes	Aug. 5	Nov. 10
GRAND JUNCTION, COLO* Chamber of Commerce MAIL: P.O. Box 300	846	Wendell Calhoun	Pears*	Aug. 10	Oct. 2*
			Potatoes	Aug. 10	Oct. 30
			Peaches*	Aug. 16	Sept. 18*
			Apples	Sept.15	Oct. 30
			Onions	Sept.20	Oct. 30
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	A. E. Prugh Mrs. L.B.Gerry	Apples	Aug. 23	Mar. 31
BENTON HARBOR,MICH** 403 Fidelity Bldg.	838	R. H. Shoemaker	Pears	Sept. 8	Oct. 23
			Apples	Sept. 8	Oct. 23
			Grapes	Sept. 8	Oct. 9
			Peaches*	Sept. 8	Oct. 2*
			Potatoes	Sept.16	Oct. 23
			Onions	Sept.16	Oct. 23
ROCHESTER, N.Y.** 419 Triangle Bldg.	837	J. D. Evers	Apples	Sept.10	May 28
			Cabbage	Sept.10	Mar. 12
			Celery	Sept.13	Jan. 22
			Carrots	Sept.14	Apr. 15
			Lettuce*	Sept.14	Oct. 2*
			Pears	Sept.15	Oct. 30
			Onions	Sept.20	Apr. 15
			Peaches	Sept.23	Oct. 30
			Potatoes	Oct. 4	May 28
			Grapes	Oct. 4	Oct. 30
WAUPACA, WIS.** Court House	894	G. D. Clark	Potatoes	Sept.14	Apr. 2
PRESQUE ISLE, ME. Graves Hardware Blk.	842	H. E. Rutland	Potatoes	Sept.15	Mar. 31
MARTINSBURG, W. Va. Berkeley Hotel	835	R. L. Sutton	Apples	Sept.23	Nov. 6

The following station may be open about date indicated:

IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO	845	W. F. Cox	Potatoes	Oct. 11	Apr. 15

The following station closes on date indicated:

POCOMOKE CITY, MD.** Peninsula Bldg.	878	W. G. Lensen	Berries	May 21	June 18
			Potatoes	June 14	Aug. 4
			Cants	Aug. 6	Aug. 14
			Sweets	Aug. 16	Oct. 9

** State cooperating. * Reports discontinued.

W. G. Lensen to Chicago office. W. F. Cox in Denver office.
J. A. Hunter returned to San Antonio, Texas.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. REVISED ADDRESS LIST OF INSPECTORS.

With this D.L., there are being distributed copies of the revised address list of inspection offices and inspectors. Please examine it carefully, and report at once any errors or omissions. Residence addresses and phone numbers of men in charge, which do not appear on the list, should be supplied promptly, as should any missing office-telephone numbers. Be sure to discard copies of previous lists.

2c. STATES RECOGNIZING U.S. GRADES FOR BARRELED APPLES.

Mr. Pailthorp has compiled thefollowing information, which is of importance to all inspectors:

The following States have adopted the U. S. standards for barreled apples as official: New Jersey, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Ohio and Wisconsin.

The use of the U. S. standards is optional in Illinois, Delaware, New York and West Virginia, these States also having State grades. The dates of the latest State grades are as follows: Illinois, 1921; Delaware, 1917; New York, 1922; West Virginia, 1923.

In Virginia, the U. S. grades have been recommended for use by the State Department of Agriculture, but the growers are not required to pack according to the U. S. standards. There are no Virginia State grades.

In Pennsylvania, the State Department of Agriculture adopted the U. S. grades, but growers are not required to pack according to U. S. standards. There are no State grades.

3c. MODIFICATION OF MEMORANDUM NO. 61.

On account of difficulties experienced by the steamship companies in identifying various varieties, it was found impracticable to include barreled Albermarle Pippins with boxed apples in the plans for certifying apples for shipment to Europe. An attempt is still being made to work out plans whereby this variety can be handled in the same way as western boxed apples.

Regardless of the delay, if requests are received for certification of this variety for export purposes, red certificates should beissued, if distinctly visible residues are found, regardless of the nature of such residues. We cannot expect to distinguish between Bordeaux residues and those of an arsenical nature. While not holding up shipments, red certificates issued on such lots will serve as a warning to exporters of the dangers of shipping such stock, and will relieve the Inspection Service from any charge of pursuing different policies with respect to different sections of the country. The use of red certificates in this connection should not be limited to Albemarle Pippins, it being agreed that this warning should be issued on all lots which are found to show distinctly visible spray residues. It is not thought, however, that any other varieties will be affected.

TEMPORARY HEADQUARTERS OF SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION WORK.

State	Supervisor	Products	Approx. date of Opening	Closing
IOWA:	C. D. Shirley, St. Ansgar, Ia.	Onions	Aug. 16	Oct. 16
INDIANA:	F. M. Lyle, County Agent's Office, Warsaw, Ind.	Onions	Sept. 7	Dec. 4
PENNSYLVANIA:	D. M. James, 586 Lincoln Way East, Chambersburg, Pa.	Peaches*	Aug. 23	Sept.20*
		Apples	Sept. 1	Nov. 13
WEST VIRGINIA: W. MARYLAND:	J. J. Gardner, Berkeley Hotel, Martinsburg, W.Va.	Peaches*	Sept. 1	Sept.20*
		Apples	Sept. 7	Oct. 30
VIRGINIA:	F. S. Kinsey, 605 Nat'l Bank Bldg. Charlottesville, Va.	Peaches*	Sept. 1	Sept. 20*
		Apples	Sept. 7	Oct. 30
MICHIGAN:	J. A. Marks, Bemton Harbor, Mich.	Grapes,	Sept.10	Oct. 20
		Peaches*	Sept. 8	Sept. 29*
		Apples	Sept.15	Oct. 15
		Pears*	Sept.10	Sept.25*
		Onions	Oct. 1	Oct. 30
NEW YORK:	A. E. Mercker, 415 Triangle Bldg., Rochester, N.Y.	Apples	Sept.20	May 1
		Onions	Sept.20	Apr. 1
		Pears	Sept.20	Oct. 30
		Peaches	Sept.20	Oct. 15
		Potatoes	Sept.20	May 1
		Grapes	Sept.20	Oct. 30
		Cabbage	Sept.20	Mar. 1
MAINE:	O. N. Harsha, Caribou, Maine.	Potatoes	Sept.20	Apr. 15
FLORIDA:	O. G. Strauss, Orlando, Fla.	Grapefruit	Oct. 5	Apr. 15

*Inspection completed on products marked with a star.

NOTE: Supervisors should send corrections of data on this page.

4c. MICHIGAN GRAPE INSPECTIONS.

The following is quoted from a letter of September 28, written by J. A. Marks, at Benton Harbor, Mich:

"Since writing you Saturday, we have decided to certify No.1 grapes in jumbos principally on the basis of the U. S. grade. Where the stock is good enough to meet also the Michigan No.1 grade, we will certify that "Stock meets Michigan and U. S. No.1 grade." Otherwise, we will mention only U. S. No.1. We have found that the Michigan No.1 grade is too tight on compactness of bunches and, just at present, on color requirements for many of the growers to pack to it. We tried to figure out some sort of interpretation that would enable us to harmonize the two grades, but it is a difficult matter and, with rather inexperienced inspectors, we feared that it would be confusing to attempt to do so. We will certify to both Michigan and U. S. Fancy grades in the 4-quart stock, since there is no material difference in the two."

5c. SPECIAL GRADE WASHINGTON APPLES.

Under the provisions of the Washington standards for grading, packing, certification and packages of apples for the season of 1926, the American Fruit Growers, Inc., have filed specifications for a grade known as "Trust-Worthee." These specifications are as follows:

"Trust-Worthee grade consists of apples which are fairly well formed, free from infection, visible watercore, soft bruises and broken skin, provided that acab spots, affecting a total area not to exceed one-half inch in diameter, and not more than three small healed stings shall be permitted in this grade. Apples in the red and striped red varieties, except Romes, shall carry at least 5% characteristic color. Apples showing the effects of freezing will not be permitted in this grade."

Inspections of all boxed apples, so marked, should be made in accordance with these specifications.

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Pailthorp will leave Washington by Sunday evening for points in New York State and New England. He expects to confer with inspectors in New York City and Boston, regarding the interpretation of the U. S. grades for barreled apples. At some of the State agricultural colleges and at other points in New England, Mr. Pailthorp will meet with State officials, extension horticulturists, growers and shippers, for a discussion of grades for New England apples. He may be absent 10 days or two weeks.

H. A. Spilman is at Ithaca, N.Y., today, where he is scheduled to give a talk on the standardization of containers, before the class in marketing, at the New York State Agricultural College.

OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

In order to assist with the heavy inspections in New York City, W. J. Bertush was sent from the Chicago office last week. Likewise, A. H. Polster has gone from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh, to help M. W. Baker in that market.

After closing the field station at Pocomoke City, Md., this week. W. G. Lensen will come to the Washington office for a day, and then proceed to Chicago, where he will be in temporary charge of the market-reporting work, when W. H. Hall goes to Orlando, Fla., to issue reports on citrus fruits.

Mrs. Ruth A. Jones, who was a former member of Mr. Clay's stencil-cutting force in Washington, will be reinstated next Monday. She has been out of the service four months.

Since J. G. Scott has taken charge of the Denver office of the News Service, Wendell Calhoun will now proceed to Grand Junction, and relieve J.A. Hunter, who returns to the cooperative State work in Texas.

R. E. Corbin, of the Chicago news staff, has been absent for a few days on account of illness.

Friends of Chas. W. Hauck, formerly a member of Mr. Samson's staff, will be interested to learn that he is now taking a course in the graduate school at Ohio State University, Columbus, and expects to receive the M.Sc. degree at the end of the current school year. Mr. Hauck also has been appointed as a graduate assistant in the Rural Economics Dept., and will teach a class in the Marketing of Agricultural Products. Some of his time also will be spent in research work.

Mrs. Ida M. Burns, clerk-typist in the Detroit office, has resigned, effective October 31. It is understood that Mrs. Burns expects to marry, in the near future. She is one of the earliest employees in the service of this Division, having been appointed in the spring of 1917 and having worked in the offices at Denver, Chicago and Detroit.

L. G. Schultz, of the Idaho staff, is spending most of this week in Montana, conferring with shipping-point inspectors there.

In addition to his supervisory work in West Virginia and western Maryland, J. J. Gardner will supervise the inspection of a small number of cars of apples in the Gallipolis section of southern Ohio. He plans to visit that territory next week.

G. A. Bidelman, who was appointed recently to the Market News Service, is spending all of this week in the Washington office, getting acquainted with details of the work. He will report at the Atlanta office within a few days.

R. N. Balster, who has been at Omaha about three months, will return to his headquarters in Chicago by next Monday morning.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 7, NO. 42.
Oct. 15, 1926.
(Contents Confidential)

1a. STANDARDIZED TRAVEL REGULATIONS.

Copies of the Standardized Government Travel Regulations and P.B.A. Circular No.44, commenting upon them, have been mailed to all technical men. All changes in the regulations, as outlined in this Circular, should be carefully noted. Particular attention is called to the regualtions with regard to the use of telegrams. Please note that "any mingling of personal with official matter destroys the official character of the telegram. Inquiries and responses as to leave and pay are always personal."

2a. DISCOUNTS ON REPAIR PARTS OF GOVERNMENT AUTOMOBILES.

In order to conserve our funds by taking advantage of discounts on automobile repair parts, attention is called to The B. A. E. News, dated October 12, giving the substance of P. B. A. Circular No. 46.

3a. SPECIAL REPORT ON APPLES.

The Bureau of Railway Economics, Transportation Building, Washington, D. C., recently published Bulletin No. 14, on "APPLES," in the series of reports on Commodity Prices in Their Relation to Transportation Costs. Copies of the bulletin, which contains 16 large pages, can be obtained from that Bureau. The bulletin includes all sorts of valuable information on shipments arrivals, prices to growers, city prices, transportation costs, etc. on apples. The text is illustrated with numerous charts and maps. Many of the data were obtained from our own Bureau.

4a. USE OF POSTAGE-FREE ENVELOPES.

The question has arisen whether franked envelopes may be used by a State officer for sending copies of certificates from the field to the State capitol for filing. The answer appears to be that they may not, for the reason that it is not essential to the work of the Federal Department of Agriculture that copies be so filed. It is essential to our work that copies be sent to Washington and, of course, they come under frank. If the State desires to keep copies of the certificates which its employees or inspectors issue, it is the duty of the State to pay the postage involved in their transmission.

One question can always be asked concerning any contemplated use of these envelopes, namely: "Is the business carried by this envelope a part of the official business of the United States Department of Agriculture, necessarily and properly incident to the performance of the duties laid upon it by Congress?" If the answer is "Yes," the envelope may be used. If the answer is "No" or doubtful, use postage.

WELLS A. SHERMAN.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. BRIEF REVIEW OF COLORADO VEGETABLE SEASON.

Market reports on lettuce and other vegetables (except potatoes) were discontinued at the Denver office on October 4. Two days later, Mr. Calhoun issued a brief mimeographed summary of the Colorado season for lettuce, green peas and cauliflower. Copies doubtless can be obtained from J. G. Scott, now in charge of the Denver office. Up to October 4, about 2,710 cars of lettuce had been shipped from Colorado points, compared with 2,787 to the same date the year before and 3,059 cars all of the 1925 season.

2b. SUMMARY OF APPLE SITUATION.

There is being mailed to each market and field station a copy of a mimeographed summary of the present apple situation, entitled: "Apples in the Fall of 1926." This is to be duplicated totally or in part by all stations and mailed to names on the apple lists.

3b. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR OCTOBER 9:

Page 229 - Great Interest in Potato Crop. - (weekly review)
231 - California Grape Season Lagging, - by C. E. Schultz.
- Bad weather Hits Wisconsin Potatoes, - by G. D. Clark.

4b. CHANGES IN LIST OF FIELD STATIONS:

The list of temporary field stations is not being published this week because it has been changed very little from last week. The following corrections should be noted: Substitute E. R. Biddle's name for that of R. L. Sutton at Martinsburg, W. Va. Show the possible opening date of the Idaho Falls station as October 20. At bottom of sheet, indicate R. L. Sutton on leave.

5b. REVISED CITRUS ESTIMATE FOR FLORIDA.

H. A. Marks, Agricultural Statistician at Orlando, Fla., has published a revised citrus-fruit estimate, under date of October 11. As a result of the hurricane a short while ago, it is estimated that 2,000,000 boxes of fruit were lost, leaving a total of 15,000,000, of which 9,000,000 are oranges and the remainder grapefruit. The grapefruit crop suffered heaviest loss, and it is figured that this crop will be 500,000 boxes less than the shipments of last season.

6b. ADDITIONAL FOREIGN REPORTS:

The Foreign Marketing Section has issued these additional reports: F.S.:A-69, "The British Apple Market," Sept. 29. F.S.:F-34, "British and German Fruit Imports in August." F.S.:A-72, "The British Apple Market," Oct. 6.

E. W. STILLWELL,
Specialist in Market News.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. IMPORTANCE OF PROPER LOADING.

Jay W. Raplee, of the Buffalo office, submitted the following letter under date of October 9:

"Supervising inspectors frequently advance arguments to shippers, to sell Government inspection at shipping point. They tell the shipper that cars which are well-graded are much easier sold and that, with a shipping-point inspection certifying the car up to grade, the shipper is insured against loss, especially losses due to a falling market.

"But there are losses from another source which are sometimes overlooked. At times , upon a car that is certified up to grade, the shipper has to sustain a loss because he has not properly stripped, stowed or braced the load. Not taking up the slack, in loads where packages fail to space out evenly, by the use of bulkheads or center bracings is a mistake that is commonly made, especially with new shippers. When boxes, such as apples or pears, are loaded full length of the car and the boxes do not space out evenly, some provision should be made to take up the slack. Also,it is important, when boxes are loaded with ventilating channels between rows, to have the boxes properly stripped. A single strip at one end of the box is not enough, for it leaves one end of the box free. If there is any slack in the load, the end of the box works around sidewise into the ventilating channels, due to the constant jarring of the car and to the centrifugal force when the train is rounding curves. This eventually causes the stripping to work loose, and the load is in general disorder when the car arrives in the distant terminal market.

"I am enclosing copy of certificate, which illustrates this point. You willnote that, throughout the center of the car where the load was three layers high, only the top layer of boxes was single-stripped, with stripping mostly about two feet long. I have inspected several cars of pears from Washington, that arrived in a similar condition. The railroads will not assume any liability for such loss, as they contend it is up to the shipper to properly load, stow, strip and brace the lading."

2c. CAUTION ABOUT COLOR OF CERTAIN CALIFORNIA GRAPES.

Mr. Conklin advises from Fresno that purple color is being considered at shipping point as characteristic for Cornichon table grapes and for such juice varieties as Grenache, Mission and Rose de Peru. Market inspectors should avoid scoring purple grapes of these varieties, especially Cornichon, Grenache and Mission, as poorly-colored.

3c. LITERATURE SENT TO INSPECTORS:

Copies of the following are being sent to all inspectors: "Official Grades for the Standardization of Idaho Farm Products, 1926-27." Dept. Bulletin No. 1406, "The Ripening, Storage and Handling of Apples."

ROBERT BIER,
Supervising Inspector.

TEMPORARY HEADQUARTERS OF SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION WORK.

State	Supervisor	Products	Approx. date of Opening	Approx. date of Closing
INDIANA:	F. M. Lyle, County Agent's Office, Warsaw, Ind.	Onions	Sept. 7	Dec. 4
PENNSYLVANIA:	D. M. James, 586 Lincoln Way East, Chambersburg, Pa.	Peaches*	Aug. 23	Sept.20*
		Apples	Sept. 1	Nov. 13
WEST VIRGINIA: W. MARYLAND:	J. J. Gardner, Berkeley Hotel, Martinsburg, W. Va.	Peaches*	Sept. 1	Sept. 20*
		Apples	Sept. 7	Oct. 30
VIRGINIA:	F. S. Kinsey, 605 Nat'l Bank Bldg., Charlottesville, Va.	Peaches*	Sept. 1	Sept. 20*
		Apples	Sept. 7	Oct. 30
MICHIGAN:	J. A. Marks, Benton Harbor, Mich.	Grapes	Sept.10	Oct. 20
		Peaches*	Sept. 8	Sept. 29*
		Apples	Sept.15	Oct. 15
		Pears*	Sept.10	Sept. 25*
		Onions	Oct. 1	Oct. 30
NEW YORK:	A. E. Mercker, 415 Triangle Bldg., Rochester, N.Y.	Apples	Sept.20	May 1
		Onions	Sept.20	Apr. 1
		Pears	Sept.20	Oct. 30
		Peaches	Sept.20	Oct. 15
		Potatoes	Sept.20	May 1
		Grapes	Sept.20	Oct. 30
		Cabbage	Sept.20	Mar. 1
MAINE:	O. N. Harsha, Caribou, Maine.	Potatoes	Sept.20	Apr. 15
FLORIDA:	O. G. Strauss, Orlando, Fla.	Grapefruit	Oct. 5	Apr. 15
The following office will close about date indicated:				
IOWA:	C. D. Shirley, St. Ansgar, Ia.	Onions	Aug. 16	Oct. 16

* Inspection completed on products marked with a star.

C. D. Shirley will go to the Chicago office.

RECEIVING-POINT INSPECTIONS DURING SEPTEMBER, 1926.

Markets	Total Inspections	Total Same Month 1925	Inspections for Carriers	Declined for Lack of Time	Total Fees
Atlanta	65	68	1	4	$275.50
Baltimore	33	30	0	0	133.00
Boston	89	102	24	1	371.50
Buffalo	22	11	1	0	84.00
Charlotte	2	-	0	0	8.00
Chicago	579	136	1	2	1767.00
Cincinnati	60	34	0	0	277.50
Cleveland	55	50	12	0	310.50
Columbus	31	28	1	0	124.00
Denver	6	9	0	0	25.00
Detroit	59	54	2	0	231.00
Harrisburg	0	3	0	0	----
Indianapolis	22	24	0	0	93.00
Jacksonville	31	-	0	0	121.50
Kansas City	41	39	0	0	172.00
Los Angeles	9	7	0	0	43.00
Memphis	55	70	43	0	221.00
Milwaukee	37	26	0	0	145.00
Minneapolis	43	32	0	0	177.00
Newark	28	35	0	0	112.00
New Haven	45	51	7	0	189.00
New Orleans	140	127	100	2	605.00
New York	678	681	35	0	2572.00
Norfolk	33	14	5	3	140.00
Omaha	12	16	1	0	50.00
Philadelphia	48	32	8	0	195.00
Pittsburgh	94	56	14	3	381.50
Portland	17	39	3	0	71.00
St. Louis	99	130	31	0	393.00
Salt Lake City	2	2	0	0	8.00
San Diego	0	2	0	0	----
San Francisco	13	3	0	0	49.00
Trenton	2	-	0	0	8.00
Washington	18	19	6	0	76.00
Wilkes-Barre	30	10	12	1	126.00
Total	2418	1940	307	16	$9555.00

INSPECTIONS FOR THE NAVY AND MARINE CORPS DURING SEPTEMBER, 1926.

ALL FIGURES IN THESE COLUMNS REPRESENT POUNDS

SYMBOLS N - NAVY M - MARINE CORPS	Fruits and Vegetables PASSED		Fruits and Vegetables REJECTED		TOTAL QUANTITY INSPECTED		"Cuts" Made to comply with Specifications		Items Billed Short-weight	
STATIONS	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M
BOSTON	-		-		144062		-		-	
NEWPORT	201144	0	25725	0	226869	0	625	0	0	0
NEW YORK	704969	89347	31265	280	736234	89627	621	0	0	0
NORFOLK	Navy work not completed when report was sent in.									
	53360		2489		55849		320		0	
PHILADELPHIA	295883	30182	1842	311	297725	30493	2201	41	0	0
SAN DIEGO	764424	79272	91902	974	856326	80246	1746	721	0	0
SAN FRANCISCO	950640	0	80400	0	1031040	0	0	0	0	0
SAN PEDRO	565241	0	6845	0	572086	0	1020	0	0	0
VALLEJO	197886	33950	16107	75	213993	34025	80	356	0	0
WASHINGTON	63016	0	525	0	63541	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	3743203	286111	254611	4129	4141876	290249	6293	1438	0	0
INSPECTIONS MADE FOR U. S. SHIPPING BOARD										
NEW YORK	20632		0		20632		0		0	
NORFOLK	53360		2489		55849		320		0	
TOTAL	73992		2489		76481		320		0	

The New York office also inspected the following:

	Vegetables	Fruits	Rejecti
For the United States Lines	215538	137322	3459
For the Munson Line	55466	14684	850
For the American France Line	13784	2527	500
For the American Diamond Line	9317	2726	1110
For the American Merchant Line	27775	10904	150
	321880lbs.	168163lbs	60691

The San Pedro office also inspected the following:

Bread	6575
Butter	4663
Cheese	1664
Total	12902 lbs.

The Vallejo office also inspected and passed for the Navy; 27,470 lbs. of bread and 25 lbs. of rolls.

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Robb left Washington on Tuesday for Yakima, Wash., and other points in the Northwest, where he will confer with inspectors regarding the certification of apples, which may have been damaged by the recent freeze. He may be absent a couple of weeks. Meantime, Mr. Bier, will be temporarily in charge of the Inspection headquarters.

Mr. Samson plans to go to New York City next Tuesday, and meet with the Research Council in that market. Special attention is being given at present to a study of the supply and market prices of peaches.

R. G. Hill returned last Friday from his investigational trip in the carrot producing sections around Rochester, N.Y. He left again on Tuesday for points on the Eastern Shore of Maryland and Virginia, where he will make investigations as to the grading of sweet potatoes.

F. S. Kinsey, in charge of Virginia apple inspections, was in Washington last Saturday for conference with Mr. Robb and others.

W. G. Lensen spent Monday and Tuesday in the Washington office, and has now proceeded to the Chicago office of the News Service.

Mrs. M. P. Emmert, of the clerical force handling shipment reports, is critically ill at her home in Virginia. A. L. Thomas, radio operator at the Rochester office, was off duty for a few days on account of a severe case of tonsilitis.

H. S. Stiles, of the Boston office, was subpoenaed to appear in the municipal court at Boston on Friday of last week, to certify as to market prices of 1921 strawberries involved in a local suit.

W. F. Plummer, of the New Haven inspection office, is still suffering from a heavy cold, and W. C. Hangstafer, of the New York staff, went to New Haven on October 4 and is handling the work during Mr. Plummer's illness.

W. H. Hall and W. G. Lensen, of the Chicago office, are making a trip today through the cabbage-producing section of southeastern Wisconsin. E. P. Lemott, head clerk in Chicago, is helping the other members of the Market News staff with today's reports.

A. H. Polster, of the Philadelphia office, proceeded from Pittsburgh to Cincinnati, and will handle the Cincinnati inspections while W. E. Leigh is on leave the next two weeks. Mr. Polster had been assisting temporarily in Pittsburgh. T. L. Kelly is in charge of the work in Philadelphia for the present.

George A. DeHaven returned this morning from Rochester and other points in western New York, where he made a two-weeks' study of movement by truck.

OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

Next Friday, October 22, Prof. J. W. Lloyd, Chief in Olericulture at the Illinois State College of Agriculture, plans to take his marketing class of seven students to the Chicago market. They will spend an hour or two in our local office, where talks will be given by the men in charge, and then the class will accompany inspectors to the yards and watch the process of produce inspection. Mr. Butner advises that this annual visit by Professor Lloyd's classes is an event looked forward to with pleasure by the Chicago staff.

It is expected that C. D. Shirley will complete his supervision of onion inspections in Iowa at the end of this week, and will then report for further duty in Chicago.

V. V. Westgate, of the Omaha office, is making another supervisory trip in connection with inspection of potatoes in western Nebraska and in Wyoming.

B. E. Shaffer, who has been making grading investigations in the Northwest since the latter part of May, has completed his work and is enroute to his home at Vicksburg, Mich. Mr. Shaffer also will stop at the Chicago office a day or two, and then return to Washington headquarters.

Since the publication of the revised list of inspectors' addresses, H. T. Longino, of the Houston office, has advised that his residence telephone number should be changed to: Wayside 4020. Please make this correction on your copy of the new list.

Miss Maude E. Norup, of Mr. Clay's section, is transferring today to Dr. Stine's Division. She has been with the News Service more than two years.

A wire from J. D. Evers, in charge of the Rochester office, announces his intention to resign to accept a position with R. C. Shreve, a large operator in that city. Mr. Evers was appointed to the Market News Service in May, 1922, and most of the time has handled important assignments in the field. He has substituted at various market stations for brief periods, and also has been in the inspectors' training class. From the fall of 1924 until the summer of 1925, he was on furlough to complete his course at the Harvard School of Business Administration. Mr. Evers has rendered excellent service in all his assignments and his departure is much regretted. He goes to his new position with our best wishes for success.

R. L. Sutton will go from Martinsburg, W. Va., to Rochester and take over the work there, on Mr. Evers' withdrawal. Mr. Sutton probably will be on annual leave during the next week, and then will proceed to Rochester.

E. R. Biddle, of the Philadelphia office, went to Martinsburg this morning, and will issue the apple reports there until the close of that station in early November. W. R. Whitacre is temporarily in charge at Philadelphia.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 7, NO. 43.
Oct. 22, 1926.
(Contents Confidential)

1a. FIELD OFFICE DISTRIBUTION OF STANDARD TRADING RULES AGREEMENTS.

In the D.L. of September 3, field offices were requested to send in lists of parties to whom they distributed the standard trading rules agreements from the supply sent them. Less than half of our branch offices have sent in such lists. Those, who have not done so, should please attend to this matter.

WELLS A. SHERMAN.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. SUMMARY OF NEW YORK POTATO SEASON.

The latest field summary to be distributed is MARKETING WESTERN NEW YORK POTATOES, Season of 1925-26, by A. E. Prugh.

2b. PEACH REPORTS DISCONTINUED.

Mimeographed peach-market reports, issued at Washington, were discontinued yesterday for the present season.

3b. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR OCTOBER 16:

Page 245 - Potatoes Advance; Apple Crop Reduced. (weekly review)
247 - Northwestern Apple Situation, - by A. E. Prugh.
248 - Western New York Potatoes Delayed, - by J. D. Evers.
253 - Smyrna Raisin Situation.
256 - British Apple Market in September.
- Reduction Expected in Imports of Spanish Onions.

4b. CALIFORNIA GRAPES.

In reply to a telegraphic inquiry from Jacksonville, Fla., C. E. Schultz, of the Fresno market news office, wired as follows on October 12:

"Emperor crop just starting to move. Impossible estimate probable shipments account weather deciding factor. Yields vary but generally good. Table Tokays cleaning up. Rain in northern district damaged few remaining. Probably bulk of small percentage on vines will move as juice stock, if at all. Condition of Emperors is excellent, quality variable account some vineyards having difficulty with small berries and poor color. Others excellent this respect."

E. W. STILLWELL,
Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

Stations	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably will close
FRESNO, CALIF.** Sequoia Hotel	919	C. E. Schultz	Grapes	Aug. 5	Nov. 10
GRAND JUNCTION, COLO.* Chamber of Commerce MAIL: P.O. Box 300	846	Wendell Calhoun	Pears*	Aug. 10	Oct. 2*
			Potatoes	Aug. 10	Oct. 30
			Peaches*	Aug. 16	Sept. 18*
			Apples	Sept.15	Oct. 30
			Onions	Sept.20	Oct. 30
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	A. E. Prugh Mrs. L.B. Gerry	Apples	Aug. 23	Mar. 31
ROCHESTER, N.Y.** 419 Triangle Bldg.	837	J. D. Evers	Apples	Sept.10	May 28
			Cabbage	Sept.10	Mar. 12
			Celery	Sept.13	Jan. 22
			Carrots	Sept.14	Apr. 15
			Lettuce*	Sept.14	Oct. 2*
			Pears	Sept.15	Oct. 30
			Onions	Sept.20	Apr. 15
			Peaches*	Sept.23	Oct. 21*
			Potatoes	Oct. 4	May 28
			Grapes	Oct. 4	Oct. 30
WAUPACA, WIS.** Court House	894	G. D. Clark	Potatoes	Sept.14	Apr. 2
PRESQUE ISLE, ME. Graves Hardware Blk.	842	H. E. Rutland	Potatoes	Sept.15	Mar.31
MARTINSBURG, W. Va. Berkeley Hotel	835	E. R. Biddle	Apples	Sept.23	Nov. 6
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.** 220 Ashton Bldg.†	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Apples	Oct. 26	Nov. 27
			Potatoes	Oct. 26	June 1
† subject to change			Onions	Oct. 26	Apr. 1
The following station may open about date indicated:					
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO	845	W. F. Cox	Potatoes	Oct. 25	Apr. 15
The following station closes on date indicated:					
BENTON HARBOR, MICH.** 403 Fidelity Bldg.	838	R. H. Shoemaker	Pears	Sept. 8	Oct. 23
			Apples	Sept. 8	Oct. 23
			Grapes	Sept. 8	Oct. 23
			Peaches	Sept. 8	Oct. 2
			Potatoes	Sept.16	Oct. 23
			Onions	Sept.16	Oct. 23

** State cooperating. * Reports discontinued.

R. L. Sutton on leave in Virginia. W. F. Cox in Denver office.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. INSPECTION WORK IN WESTERN NEW YORK.

In a recent letter from Rochester, N.Y., Mr. Mercker advised that pear inspections may continue until the end of December, as Kieffer pears will be moving out of storage for some time. Grape inspections are heavy at present, and stock will be moving from cellar storages all of November. It is expected that cabbage will be inspected throughout the winter.

2c. FREEZING INJURY TO NORTHWESTERN APPLES.

In the October 12 issue of the Washington State Inspection Letter, F. E. Bailey published the following article, of interest to all inspectors:-

Injury to apples resulting from the September freeze is being found in the following forms:

(1) Injury of greatest consequence is the general advancement in the maturity of all stock. This is serious with early, as well as late, varieties, and Winesaps, in many localities where this variety should now be hard, are testing firm in many crops.

(2) By internal browning in Jonathans, Romes, and other varieties.

(3) The advanced maturity of the fruit, together with probably some physical and chemical changes resulting from the freezing, are causing the fruit to show more and deeper packing and handling bruises than in a normal season. Many bruises are of a deep watery type. Many of these bruises must be considered as affecting the grade but cannot be definitely associated with freezing injury.

(4) By general softening of the fruit over a considerable area of its surface. Such fruit can readily be detected when taken in the hand and, when cut, will practically always show internal discoloration and breakdown.

Inspectors must be on the lookout for all of the above forms of freezing injury. The maturity must be carefully watched and correctly reported on certificates. Use the pressure tester as frequently as possible. The deep watery bruises are a defect of grade and should be handled as such, in accordance with the compulsory grade rules of the State.

Mr. Griner has temporarily authorized the cutting of samples where there is reason to believe that the fruit shows internal browning or discoloration. Because internal browning and internal breakdown are also associated with over-ripeness and are commonly found every season in stock, which has passed commercial utility, it will be best to describe this condition where found without mentioning freezing injury, unless the discoloration takes such a form that it is rather conclusive evidence that the injury is a direct result of freezing.

Because of the difficulty of proving that most of the internal browning, advanced maturity, and watery-type bruises found on the fruit are a result of freezing injury, it is best that these conditions be described on the certificate when found, without making a statement associating them with freezing injury, except in the few cases where the injury is clearly such as can only result from freezing injury.

TEMPORARY HEADQUARTERS OF SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION WORK

State	Supervisor	Products	Approx. date of Opening	Approx. date of Closing
INDIANA:	F. M. Lyle, County Agent's Office, Warsaw, Ind.	Onions	Sept. 7	Dec. 4
PENNSYLVANIA:	D. M. James, 586 Lincoln Way East Chambersburg, Pa.	Peaches*	Aug. 23	Sept.20
		Apples	Sept. 1	Nov. 13
WEST VIRGINIA: W. MARYLAND:	J. J. Gardner, Berkeley Hotel, Martinsburg, W. Va.	Peaches*	Sept. 1	Sept.20
		Apples	Sept. 7	Nov. 15
VIRGINIA:	F. S. Kinsey, 605 Nat'l Bank Bldg. Charlottesville, Va.	Peaches*	Sept. 1	Sept.20
		Apples	Sept. 7	Oct. 30
MICHIGAN:	J. A. Marks, Benton Harbor, Mich.	Grapes	Sept.10	Oct. 30
		Peaches*	Sept. 8	Sept.29
		Apples	Sept.15	Oct. 30
		Pears*	Sept.10	Sept.25
		Onions	Oct. 1	Oct. 30
NEW YORK:	A. E. Mercker, 415 Triangle Bldg., Rochester, N.Y.	Apples	Sept.20	May 1
		Onions	Sept.20	Apr. 1
		Pears	Sept.20	Dec. 31
		Peaches*	Sept.20	Oct. 15
		Potatoes	Sept.20	May 1
		Grapes	Sept.20	Nov. 30
		Cabbage	Sept.20	Apr. 1
MAINE:	O. N. Harsha, Caribou, Maine	Potatoes	Sept.20	Apr.15
FLORIDA:	O. G. Strauss, Orlando, Fla.	Grapefruit	Oct. 5	Apr. 15

* Inspection completed on products marked with a star.

SUPERVISORS should send corrections for this page.

3c. VEGETABLE SITUATION IN LOUISIANA.

Writing from Baton Rouge, La., on October 17, C. R. Newton advised:-

"I returned last night from Lafayette, where I spent several days, exhibiting crates recommended for use in shipping vegetables, making talks on grading and packing, and in judging. Also visited several large, fall cabbage plantings, which are being ruined by worms. Growers claim they have been unable to control the worms with any of the recommended arsenical poisons either dusted or sprayed.

"Sweet-potato shipments continue to be very light on account of low prices. We have inspected only a few cars. I find that large acreages of fall root crops and cabbage have been planted in all sections."

4c. DEPT. CIRCULAR 396 BEING DISTRIBUTED.

With this D.L., each inspector will receive a copy of Dept. Circular 396, entitled: "The Control of Apple Scald with Shredded Oiled Paper."

5c. ADDITIONAL FOREIGN NEWS:

The Foreign Marketing Section has issued these additional reports:- F.S.:A-70, "Apple Industry in the Province of New Brunswick, Canada." F.S.: A-71, "The British Apple Market's Bright Season." F.S. :A-73, "The British Apple Market, Oct. 13," F.S.:F-35, "Fresh Fruit Tariff in Principal European Markets."

ROBERT BIER,
Supervising Inspector.

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Sherman was in New York City on Wednesday, conferring with Mr. Hackleman, R. G. Phillips, of the I.A.S.A., and leading exporters in an effort to arrive at a satisfactory interpretation of the term "visibly clean" in relation to spray residue. There is a possibility that a similar conference will be held in the near future between inspection representatives and shippers from the Pacific Northwest and eastern exporters. This action is being taken to assist the Inspection Service in protecting American exporters from condemnation of shipments in British markets.

Mr. Samson accompanied S. B. Shaw, of the Maryland State staff, to Hancock, Md., last Monday, and conferred with the local inspector and other persons regarding the grading and inspection of apples. Before returning to Washington, he visited J. J. Gardner, Supervising Inspector at Martinsburg.

J. Wm. Park left Washington today for peach-shipping points in North Carolina and Georgia, where he will gather 1926 price information, in order bring up-to-date the price portion of the peach survey. He may be absent a couple of weeks.

OFFICE NOTES(Continued):

B. C. Boree plans to leave on Sunday afternnon for a series of conferences with Market News representatives at market stations and field stations throughout the Middle West and the North Central region. He will be gone several weeks.

R. R. Pailthorp returned on Monday from his investigational trip relative to the grading of apples in New England.

R. C. Butner was in St. Louis yesterday and in Kansas City today, for conferences with inspectors. He will be back in Chicago by Saturday morning.

W. D. Googe, of the Fort Worth office, took a few days' leave this week.

The resignation of J. D. Evers, mentioned in last week's D.L., will not be effective until November 2. R. L. Sutton expects to reach Rochester on October 28, and take over the work at that station.

R. H. Shoemaker closes the Benton Harbor field station this week, and will move to Grand Rapids, where he will continue to issue daily reports on apples, onions and potatoes.

Mrs. Daisy J. Chaney, of the clerical pool, is assisting with the stencil-cutting work in Mr. Clay's section, Washington office.

On his return from the cabbage section in southeastern Wisconsin last Friday, W. H. Hall, of the Chicago office, reported that harvesting of the crop in that territory was unusually early and probably would be completed by October 23. Quality is very good. Prices, however, have been so low that kraut factories are using a lot of the late or Holland cabbage, in addition to the domestic-type. A full account of this trip will appear in Crops and Markets.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 7, NO. 44.
Oct. 29, 1926.
(Contents Confidential)

1a. EXPENSE ACCOUNTS:

Attention is called to Par. 106 of the Standardized Government Travel Regulations, effective October 1, 1926, a copy of which was recently mailed to field offices and traveling men of the Division. This requires that accounts must be rendered monthly and in duplicate. Apparently, the fact that the accounts must be prepared in duplicate is being overlooked.

Note also that receipts are now required for cash expenditures in excess of $1.00 (par. 95). The old limit was $2.00.

When sleeping-car or parlor-car charges are paid in cash, the berth or seat check, or other receipt, is required even though the amount is less than $1.00. If a parlor-car chair or seat is occupied on a trip of less than 25 miles, the necessity must be shown.

These points are among those mentioned in P.B. A. Circular No. 44, referred to in the D.L. of October 15.

2a. GREATER PROMPTNESS NEEDED.

All emergency absences from duty should be reported to Washington as soon as the leave is taken. If the absence in the field is for more than a day or so, thereby requiring advance approval, the application for leave should be signed by the person in charge and forwarded to Washington for approval. After the employee returns to duty, he or she should complete the leave slip and mail it immediately to Washington. This procedure is sometimes neglected. See Adm. Sup. par. 68.

The Memorandum copies of Transportation Requests must be mailed to P. H. Quinn, of this Bureau in Washington, immediately after the originals have been used, instead of retaining such Memorandum copies until expense accounts are submitted, as has been done in some cases. See instructions on the back of the Memorandum copies; also Adm. Sup. par. 83.

3a. ADDITIONAL FOREIGN REPORTS.

The Foreign Marketing Section has issued these reports: F.S.:F-36, "Waste in Export Fruit Marketing," prepared by Edwin Smith. F.S.:CF-29, "Sicilian Lemon Prospects." "Larger Palestine Orange Crop." F.S.:CF-30, "Smaller Shipments of Porto Rican Grapefruit Expected." F.S.:A-74, "The British Apple Market" Oct.20.

4a. REVISIONS TO BE MADE IN ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPLEMENT.

For greater convenience, the last sheet (two pages) in this D.L. has been mimeographed as a unit. If desired, it can be detached without marring the remainder of the Letter. Every technical employee should read the sheet carefully, and make the revisions in his Supplement to Handbook.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably will close
FRESNO, CALIF.** Sequoia Hotel	919	C. E. Schultz	Grapes	Aug. 5	Nov. 6
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	A. E. Prugh Mrs. L.B. Gerry	Apples	Aug. 23	Mar. 31
ROCHESTER, N.Y.** 419 Triangle Bldg.	837	R. L. Sutton	Apples	Sept.10	May 28
			Cabbage	Sept.10	Mar. 12
			Celery	Sept.13	Jan. 22
			Carrots	Sept.14	Apr. 15
			Lettuce*	Sept.14	Oct. 2*
			Pears	Sept.15	Oct. 30
			Onions	Sept.20	Apr. 15
			Peaches*	Sept.23	Oct. 21*
			Potatoes	Oct. 4	May 28
			Grapes	Oct. 4	Oct. 30
WAUPACA, WIS.** Court House	894	G. D. Clark	Potatoes	Sept.14	Apr. 2
PRESQUE ISLE, ME. Graves Hardware Blk.	842	H. E. Rutland	Potatoes	Sept.15	Mar. 31
MARTINSBURG,W. VA. Berkeley Hotel	835	E. R. Biddle	Apples	Sept.23	Nov. 5
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH** 29 Norris Bldg.	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Apples	Oct. 28	Nov. 27
			Potatoes	Oct. 28	June 1
			Onions	Oct. 28	Apr. 1
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO	845	Wendell Calhoun	Potatoes	Nov. 3	Apr. 15
ORLANDO, FLA.**	920	W. H. Hall	Citrus Frt.	Nov. 6	Apr. 15

The following station closes on date indicated:

GRAND JUNCTION,COLO** Chamber of Commerce MAIL: P.O. Box 300	846	Wendell Calhoun	Pears	Aug. 10	Oct. 2
			Potatoes	Aug. 10	Oct. 30 28
			Peaches	Aug. 16	Sept. 18
			Apples	Sept.15	Oct. 30 28
			Onions	Sept.20	Oct. 30 28

** State cooperating. * Reports discontinued.

W. F. Cox gone to Los Angeles office.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. CROP NOTES FROM WESTERN SLOPE OF COLORADO.

In a letter of October 20, ffom Grand Junction, Colo., Wendell Calhoun gave the following information:

"With the slow, late start of the apple movement, total Colorado shipments are one third less than to date last year, with 846 and 1255 cars, respectively on October 20. But the crop is moving steadily now, with daily shipments considerably heavier than a year ago. Almost every estimate obtained on length and volume of the movement is predicated on the weather, and many shippers are doubtful if the crop will be all moved before freezing occurs. Hence the general answer that 'shipments will be heavy until freeze up.' Of course, much stock is stored, but storage facilities are limited, and especially this year, with so many onions on hand. All factors are agreed that, unless the market gets below the point where they can afford to ship, they will be working steadily until about the middle of November, or until the freeze comes.

"Potatoes will be about all harvested this week, and, after the field shipping is completed, there will not be much doing on them for a time. Yields of the late crop in the upper districts have been more satisfactory, and considerable stock has gone into storage, but it will mostly be held until later.

"Onions will be practically all under cover by the end of this week, and then the actual marketing will become more active. Efforts so far have been mostly to get the crop into storage. All the warehouses are full to the eaves, and Mr. Brewer estimates that there are 800 cars in storage in that district. Some of this has been bought by the dealers, but most of it still belongs to the growers. In addition, there is a lot of stock in more-or-less temporary farm storage, much of which will have to be shipped before severe freezing weather. So, there should be considerable activity on onions during the next few weeks."

2b. DIRECTORY OF CALIFORNIA GRAPE SHIPPERS.

On September 30, C. E. Schultz issued from the Fresno office a complete list of California grape shippers, showing by shipping districts the name of the firm, the loading points, telephone number and telephone exchange, as well as the name of the local district manager for each firm. The Federal-State Shipping-Point Inspection headquarters in each district also is shown, with the name of the inspector in charge. Altogether the list includes about 600 names of grape shippers; some names appear under various districts, so that the net number of shippers is less than 600. The list doubtless is very valuable to those handling California grapes. It contains 21 long mimeographed pages. The material was assembled through the shipping-point inspection offices.

APPLES FROM ALASKA: A recent dispatch from Ancorage, Alaska, states that the first commercial shipment of Alaska-grown apples has arrived there from Hope. The apples were Yellow Transparents and absence of blemishes was very noticeable. The trees have been bearing for five years.

3b. ARTICHOKE AND LETTUCE REPORTS IN CALIFORNIA.

Beginning October 26, C. J. Hansen, of the San Francisco office, is again issuing reports on the artichoke markets, twice a week. These reports include the Tuesday and Friday prices and the arrivals of California artichokes in Chicago, Philadelphia, New York, Boston and Pittsburgh.

Mr. Hansen believes it will be December 1 before he can discontinue his lettuce market reports, as the fall crop is now moving heavily. The growers and shippers in the Watsonville and Salinas districts have prospered on their lettuce crops this year; prices have been generally high all season and the quality has been fair to good.

4b. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR OCTOBER 23:

Page 261 - Potatoes Advance Further; Onion Markets Stronger. (review)
263 - Wisconsin Cabbage Crop in Storage, - by W. H. Hall.
- British prices of American apples. (filler)
264 - Apple Distribution Problems in Potomac Valley, - R.L.Sutton.
272 - Smyrna Raisin Crop Estimate Reduced.
- French Prune Crop Estimate Less Optimistic.
- South African Citrus Production and Exports.
- Filbert Crop in Turkey Much Below Last Year.

E. W. STILLWELL,
Specialist in Market News.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. IMPORTANT CONFERENCE HELD IN CHICAGO.

A conference was held in Chicago on October 25, attended by W. C. Hackleman, of the New York office; F. E. Bailey, Supervising Inspector for Washington; R. C. Butner and T. R. Merrill, of the Chicago office; Wells A. Sherman, representing the Washington office, and apple shippers and exporters from New York and the Pacific Northwest. As a result of this conference, it was decided that the use of red certificates for certain classes of stock inspected in the eastern markets should be discontinued, but the use of yellow certificates shall be extended to cover conditions heretofore indicated by the red or pink certificate and that the yellow certificate will be issued hereafter at shipping points in the irrigated regions to indicate a class of stock which the exporters have agreed they do not wish to send abroad. Samples indicating the class of stock to be certified on yellow certificates were sent to New York and to the Northwest. Specific instructions governing the use of the yellow certificate at shipping points will be sent to the supervisors in several States as soon as the forms are received from the Government Printing Office.

2c. FEDERAL GRADES FOR TOPPED CARROTS.

With this D.L., each inspector will receive a copy of the U.S. Standards for Topped Carrots.

TEMPORARY HEADQUARTERS OF SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION WORK

State	Supervisor	Products	Approx. date of Opening	Closing
INDIANA:	F. M. Lyle, County Agent's Office, Warsaw, Ind.	Onions	Sept. 7	Dec. 4
PENNSYLVANIA:	D. M. James, 586 Lincoln Way East Chambersburg, Pa.	Peaches*	Aug. 23	Sept.20*
		Apples	Sept. 1	Nov. 13
WEST VIRGINIA: W. MARYLAND:	J. J. Gardner, Berkeley Hotel, Martinsburg, W. Va.	Peaches*	Sept. 1	Sept.20*
		Apples	Sept. 7	Nov. 15
VIRGINIA:	F. S. Kinsey, 605 Nat'l Bank Bldg. Charlottesville, Va.	Peaches*	Sept. 1	Sept.20*
		Apples	Sept. 7	Nov. 15
NEW YORK:	A. E. Mercker, 415 Triangle Bldg. Rochester, N.Y.	Apples	Sept.20	May 1
		Onions	Sept.20	Apr. 1
		Pears	Sept.20	Dec. 31
		Peaches*	Sept.20	Oct. 15*
		Potatoes	Sept.20	May 1
		Grapes	Sept.20	Nov. 30
		Cabbage	Sept.20	Apr. 1
MAINE:	O. N. Harsha, Caribou, Maine	Potatoes	Sept.20	Apr. 15
FLORIDA:	O. G. Strauss, Orlando, Fla.	Grapefruit	Oct. 5	Apr. 15

The following station closed on date indicated:

MICHIGAN:	J. A. Marks, Benton Harbor, Mich.	Grapes	Sept.10	Oct. 27
		Peaches	Sept. 8	Sept.29
		Apples	Sept.15	Oct. 27
		Pears	Sept.10	Sept.25
		Onions	Oct. 1	Oct. 27

* Inspection completed on products marked with a star.

SUPERVISORS should send corrections for this page.

J. A. Marks gone to Pittsburgh office.

3c. TOMATO "PIN-WORM" IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA.

California Inspectors' Notes, dated October 22, contains the following item of importance to all inspectors:

The so-called tomato "pin-worm" has been rather troublesome in the southern Califronia districts this season. This pest has been identified as a small stage of the corn-ear worm. Its presence is usually characterized by a tiny "pin-hole" about 1/16 inch in diameter, which gives the worm its nickname. Very often the hole is at the stem scar of the tomato, the burrows varying from shallow holes to extensive tunnels which are enlarged in proportion to the rapid growth of the worm.

When the work of "pin-worms" penetrates the outer wall of the tomato, it is classed as a serious defect. It is difficult to cull out affected fruits, because such close examination is necessary to discover the minute holes. Upon cutting open such fruits, it is not uncommon to find a fat worm, over an inch in length.

4c. COPIES DESIRED ON SECOND INSPECTIONS OF INDIANA PRODUCTS.

F.M. Lyle, supervising inspections in Indiana, has requested copies of certificates covering second inspections for condition only, made on Indiana products. Inspectors in terminal markets should cooperate by complying with this request. Mr. Lyle also is anxious to obtain copies of certificates of appeal inspections on Indiana shipments; it is understood that several such inspections have been made during recent weeks. He can be addressed: c/o County Agent, Warsaw, Indiana.

PLEASE NOTE that copies of all appeal inspections should be forwarded promptly to the field supervisors, in accordance with previous instructions on this matter.

ROBERT BIER,
Supervising Inspector.

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Sherman returned on Wednesday from the conference on apple inspections, which was held in our Chicago office on Monday. W. C. Hackleman, of the New York office, also attended this conference, and stopped for a short while in Pittsburgh on his way back to New York City.

F. E. Bailey, Supervising Inspector for the State of Washington, went from Yakina to Chicago for the inspection conference and then came on to the Washington, D.C., office, where he spent the past three days, going over details of the northwestern work with local officials. He starts on the return trip to Yakima this evening.

Mr. Clay will spend next Tuesday in Norfolk and Suffolk, Va., with E. C. Shoup and P. O. Nyhus, of the Foreign Marketing Section. Mr. Nyhus is leaving for China in a few weeks, and the men will discuss with leading peanut cleaners what service he can render in the Orient to the peanut industry.

OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

George A. DeHaven is the latest member of the technical staff to tender his resignation. He expects to leave this Saturday to accept a position as district salesman for the Atlantic Commission Company, with headquarters here in Washington. His office will be at 945 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Mr. DeHaven's departure is regretted because of the splendid work he has done in the F. & V. Division since his appointment in June, 1923. He has been associated with all three of the major projects of this Division, and, until recently, was in charge of the Kansas City office of the Market News Service. His latest work was with Mr. Samson, in a study of the movement of produce by truck. Our best wishes go with him in his new field of service.

H. A. Spilman, is at Dover, Del., today, conferring with a committee of the Peninsula Horticultural Society regarding the standardization of containers for fruits and vegetables.

Mrs. Elizabeth Estes, who was appointed to Mr. Clay's section in the Washington office four years ago and who has been on a few months' furlough, has now resigned. Her resignation was effective October 15.

R. G. Hill returned from Eastern Shore points last Friday, and is now on a few days' leave.

Miss Ellen Hanley, of the Omaha office, is securing the daily market reports there the latter part of this week. R. N. Balster, who had been in Omaha, returned recently to Chicago and V. V. Westgate is on inspection work in the field for a few days.

H. F. Willson, of the New York office, went to Philadelphia today and is looking after the market news work there, because W. R. Whitacre, who was in charge during Mr. Biddle's absence at Martinsburg, suddenly became ill and may have to be absent a week.

J. A. Marks has completed his supervision of shipping-point inspections in southwestern Michigan. He went to the Chicago office for a day or two, and will now return to Pittsburgh, where he will assist at least until J. J. Gardner returns from Martinsburg.

It is expected that A. H. Polster will return to his headquarters in Philadelphia the early part of next week, as W. E. Leigh, whose work Mr. Polster was handling in Cincinnati, will have completed his annual leave within a few days.

Word has been received from George E. Prince that he underwent an operation for appendicitis on October 13. He is recovering nicely, and hopes to be back at Aiken, S.C., within a few days.

Leased wire service to Raleigh, N.C., was discontinued on October 1. Since that date, there has been no cooperative news service at Raleigh.

OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

S. S. Rogers, of the California staff, has returned to his headquarters in Sacramento. Mr. Rogers was at Fresno for some weeks, representing the State in the car-distribution plan for grape shipments.

Latest word from Mr. Robb indicates that he was at Boise, Idaho, yesterday, and will return east without delay.

C. E. Schultz will close the Fresno market news office on November 6, and on November 10 will attend the Fruit Growers' Convention. It is expected that there will be a lively discussion of the clearing-house and other plans for handling shipments of California grapes and other fruits.

A change of plans was made for W. F. Cox. Instead of going from Denver to Idaho Falls, to operate the news service on potatoes, Mr. Cox was sent last week to the Los Angeles office, where he will assist H. A. Harris probably until the opening of the cantaloupe field station in the Imperial Valley next spring. It is expected that Mr. Cox will assist with the issuance of cantaloupe reports next season. The Los Angeles market news work and inspection work had become so heavy, especially during the fall and winter months, that Mr. Harris found he needed a technical assistant during this period, and Mr. Cox was selected for that position. On the new Market Station Address List, please insert Mr. Cox's name below H. A. Harris, at Los Angeles.

Wendell Calhoun closes the field station at Grand Junction this week and will proceed to Idaho Falls, where he will issue potato reports. The Denver office will continue the apple, onion and potato reports in brief form for a short period and distribute them to Western Slope growers.

W. H. Hall, of the Chicago office, will start today by automobile for Orlando, Fla., where he will issue market reports on citrus fruit, beginning about November 6. W. G. Lensen will be in temporary charge at Chicago.

F. S. Kinsey, who is supervising Virginia apple inspections, has begun to issue a periodical mimeographed letter of instructions to the inspection staff in that State. It is similar to the D.L. in appearance.

A recent letter from J. J. Gardner, at Martinsburg, indicates that West Virginia apple inspections totaled 1,500 by last Saturday. Probably 3,000 cars will be inspected in that territory before the season closes.

Mr. Boree was in St. Louis on Thursday. He will be on leave from Friday until Tuesday, returning to St. Louis again by Wednesday.

C. D. Shirley's departure from St. Ansgar, Iowa, was delayed about two weeks, as the shipping-point inspection work in that section was quite heavy. He plans now to proceed to the Chicago office the end of this week.

4a. REVISIONS TO BE MADE IN ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPLEMENT TO HANDBOOK.

Every technical employee in the Fruit and Vegetable Division outside of Washington is expected to be in possession of a copy of the Administrative Supplement to his project Handbook; also to have read it through completely as least once.

The following changes should be made in your copy of the Administrative Supplement to bring it up to date, in view of changes in the regulations during the past year:

Reference	To be eliminated or changed	To be added
Par. 45, 2d sentence	The salary to be paid will be the minimum salary of the classification grade of the position.	The salary to be stated should be the minimum salary of the classification grade of the position. (Explanation: A lower salary may be paid if found advisable.)
Par. 54, 2d & 3d sentences	Form 3 salary voucher should be forwarded. Form 3 vouchers (etc.)	separate payroll containing the one name should be forwarded. Payrolls should (etc.)
Par. 66, lines 11-14	until after two months' service. Their leave may be granted at the same rate as the permanent employees except that the leave does not begin to accrue until the beginning of the third month's employment	(Nothing to be substituted.) Let the sentence read: Temporary appointees cannot be granted leave.
Par. 76, last sentence	See paragraphs 4, 31, 32 and 58 of the Department Fiscal Regulations.	See paragraphs 5-7 of the Standardized Govt. Travel Regulations.
Par. 78, last sentence	See also paragraphs 41 and 51 of the Fiscal Regulations.	See also paragraphs 9 and 10 of the Std. Govt. Travel Regls.
Par. 79, last line	as outlined in par. 57 of the Fiscal Regulations.	as outlined in Appendix 1 of the Std. Govt. Travel Regls.
Par. 80, last sentence	See Fiscal Regulations, par. 33 (r).	See par. 11-b of the Std. Govt. Travel Regls.
Par. 81, line 2	cannot exceed $5	cannot exceed $7

(continued over)

Reference	To be eliminated or changed	To be added
Par. 81, line 4	exceed $4 a day	exceed $6 a day.
Par. 81, 7th and 8th lines	as explained in pars. 35 and 36 of the Fiscal Regulations.	as explained in pars. 44 and 45 of the Std. Govt. Travel Regls.
Par. 81, line 9	par. 33 of the Fiscal Regulations.	pars. 50-64 of the Std. Govt. Travel Regls.
Par. 81, last line	Fiscal Regulations par. 49.	Std. Govt. Travel Regls. pars. 95-96.
Par. 82, last sentence	See par. 43 of Fiscal Regulations.	See pars. 17-37 of the Std. Govt. Travel Regls.
Par. 83, lines 9-11	All unused transportation requests are void at the end of the fiscal year in which issued and should be returned to Washington promptly after June 30. See Fiscal Regulations, par. 43.	All unused transportation requests are void after the date indicated thereon, on which date they should be returned to Washington promptly. If no such date is stamped thereon, they are good until used or recalled.
Par. 84, last sentence	See Fiscal Regulations, pars. 44-47.	See pars. 34 and 105-c of the Std. Govt. Travel Reg.
Par. 85, lines 1 and 2.	Department Voucher Form 4	in duplicate on Standard Form No. 1012.
last line		See also Std. Govt. Travel Regls., pars. 105-108.
Par. 86, line 2	Fiscal Regulations, paragraphs 50-55.	Std. Govt. Travel Regls. pars. 104-115.
Par. 87, 1 & 2,	(Strike out first two lines)	(Nothing to be substituted)
line 17	Fiscal Regulations, paragraphs 33-37 inclusive.	Std. Govt. Travel Regls., pars. 44-103.
line 20	coupons	Memorandum copies.
Par. 93	(Strike out all references to paragraphs in Fiscal Regulations)	
Par. 133, line 3	Form 3 Pay Voucher for Personal Services (individual)	(Nothing to be substituted)
line 4	Form 4 (description O.K.)	Std. Form No. 1012

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 7, NO. 45
Nov. 5, 1926
(Contents Confidential)

1a. CROP PROSPECTS IN SOUTH TEXAS.

Following a recent survey of conditions in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas, J. A. Hunter, of the San Antonio office, wrote to the effect that the shipping season will be somewhat later than usual in the Lower Valley. Movement of truck is not expected to be active before the middle of December, and shipments from the Robstown-Corpus Christi section should begin shortly afterward. Seed is not being put out as early as usual, and the whole situation is somewhat uncertain.

It is expected that the fall movement of tomatoes, beans and other vegetables will be rather light from points in the Lower Valley. Rain was badly needed. As a result of the prosperous 1925-26 season, plantings in seed beds have been heavy, and, if general growing conditions improve soon, it is believed that cabbage acreage will be about 10% greater than last year. Fall tomatoes will not be important, but the acreage for spring harvesting may be nearly doubled. It is expected that potato plantings will be materially increased over last season, even though seed is high in price and rather difficult to secure. Some of the large operators have representatives in Nebraska, purchasing seed stocks, which will be stored at Fort Worth until needed. In the Robstown - Corpus Christi section, both cabbage and spinach plantings probably will be heavier.

Citrus fruit is showing the most active movement at present. About 30 cars had rolled to October 20, and packing plants were beginning to get into operation. Size of the fruit this year is smaller than in the past, due either to improper irrigation or to the severe cold weather of last season. It is estimated locally that 900 to 1,000 cars of citrus may be shipped from the Lower Valley this season.

2a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR OCTOBER 30:

Page 277 - Potato Shipments Past Peak. (weekly review)
278 - Market News Reports in Michigan.
279 - California persimmon growers organize. (filler)
- New York Vegetable Movement Lighter, - by J. D. Evers.
- Seed Potatoes Stored in Louisiana.
283 - Much Citrus Fruit Used for Drinks.

3a. ADDITIONAL FOREIGN REPORTS:

F.S.:A-75, "Outlook for American Apples in Continental Europe." F.S.:A-76, "The British Apple Market" Oct. 27. F.S.:F-37, "Canadian Government Makes Changes in Fixed Valuations for Certain Fruits and Vegetables." F.S.:F-38, "British and German Fruit Imports in September." F.S.:W-11,"French Walnut Crop Poor."

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. QUOTING MISCELLANEOUS PRODUCTS FOR THE BENEFIT OF FLORIDA.

In preceding seasons, there has been considerable difference in the way in which the miscellaneous commodities, upon which quotations are secured for the particular benefit of Florida, have been handled and arranged in the daily wires. These differences have caused much confusion, loss of time, and additional labor in handling the reports in the Jacksonville office.

The leased wire to Jacksonville will be in operation again, beginning November 1. Quotations on string beans, cucumbers, egg plant and peppers are requested immediately. The following method of handling these reports is suggested:

1. Treat the group as one commodity under the heading "Miscellaneous Vegetables," which phrase should start the reports on the group which will be named from time to time.

2. Follow the words, "Miscellaneous Vegetables," with the weather words, then the market report (including arrivals) on each of the commodities included in the group in alphabetical order, adding the word "Finished" at the end of the group. In addition to carlot arrivals, show l.c.l. receipts in packages, if available; otherwise, as "light," "heavy,"etc.

3. Name only those commodities for which you show receipts or quote sales. It will not be necessary, as in the past, to name the various commodities for which there are no receipts or quotations.

The latter suggestion, of course, is in the interest of economy in leased-wire traffic. It can be successfully operated, however, only if each market-station man keeps carefully in mind all of the commodities upon which reports are requested and does show all receipts and quote these products whenever possible. This must be done without fail.

2b. CATAWBA GRAPES IN CINCINNATI MARKET.

In reply to an inquiry about the higher prices for Catawba grapes, the Cincinnati office sent this wire: "Dealers state Cincinnati best Catawba grape market in United States. This variety always 15¢ to 35¢ per basket above Concords. Better for wine purposes, as has greater alcoholic content."

3b. WEEKLY REVIEW IN DEMAND ABROAD.

An interesting letter was received the other day from an important trading company at Rotterdam, Holland, stating that the Weekly Market Review of Fruits and Vegetables had not been received since July. Thinking that a subscription fee might be due, the company enclosed two one-dollar (U.S.A.) notes, and asked to be advised if the price was greater than that amount. This firm expressed great interest in the Review, and hopes to receive copies regularly in the future. The $2.00, of course, was promptly returned. This Dutch company is just one of a dozen or more firms in foreign countries, on the mailing list for the Weekly Review.

TOMATO ACREAGE on the lower East Coast of Florida probably will be more normal this season. Early reports indicate possibly 10,000 or 12,000 acres planted to begin to move after January 1, compared with only 4,860 acres south of Palm Beach last season.

4b. REPORT ARRIVALS IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER.

Several market reporters are not following HB 133, which states that all carlot freight arrivals should be arranged alphabetically in each commodity wire, for the purpose of assisting those decoding the wires to catch possible telegraphic errors. If unusual States of origin appear in the regular alphabetical order, they are much less likely to be serviced, as the decoder has more confidence in their correctness.

Read also HB pars. 134-136, dealing with the arrangement of carlot express and l.c.l. arrivals.

Less-than-carlot arrivals, express and freight, and boat arrivals should follow cars on track in the wires, instead of preceding them, as some reporters are doing.

5b. CHANGE ON APPLE PAGE OF CODE, EFFECTIVE NOV. 12:

On the "KA-KI" (Apples) page of the code, -

change KIG $2\frac{1}{4}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ inch
to read KIG A $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches up,
and add KEC $2\frac{1}{4}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ inch

6b. FORM TO BE USED FOR QUOTING CITRUS FRUITS.

In order to facilitate the handling of reports sent to Orlando, Fla., and to avoid sending unnecessary material over the leased wires, it is thought best to standardize the form of the reports on citrus fruits which will be furnished Orlando during the coming season, beginning November 6. Below is a sample form which should be followed by all market stations, reporting arrivals and cars offered at auction:

"NEW YORK BIBET GRAPEFRUIT DAMAG GACAR OFFERED DAMAD ORANGES DAGAG DAMAK GACAH OFFERED ORANGES DAMAH TANGERINES DAMAD MIXED CITRUS DAMAG OFFERED DAMAF."

Briefly, the order of items is:- Weather, grapefruit, arrivals, cars on track, cars offered at auction, to be followed by similar information in turn for oranges and mixed citrus, with offerings of tangerines to be shown separately from oranges where it is possible to obtain them in that form. Show arrivals of tangerines also separately from oranges, if possible.

7b. ONIONS STORED IN WESTERN COLORADO.

Before he left Grand Junction, Colo., last week, Mr. Calhoun wrote as follows regarding the onion situation in that State:

"Mr. Brewer, the supervising inspector at Delta, has just been checking up on the onions that are in storage in the Delta-Olathe-Montrose district and finds that there are more onions than anyone had thought. As near as he can find out, there are over 1,200 cars now in storage in the district, which, allowing for regrading and shrinkage, will make around 1,000 cars yet to be shipped."

(Further news from the Western Slope will be found on next page of D.L.)

8b. NEW PRODUCE TERMINAL IN PHILADELPHIA.

Mr. Biddle has submitted a newspaper clipping and half-tone cut, showing the new produce terminal in Philadelphia, to be operated jointly by the B. & O. and the Reading Railroad. It is on Delaware Avenue below Snyder Street, and offers splendid facilities for handling fruits, vegetables and meats. It is called "the $10,000,000 perishable products terminal," and when all the units of the plant are completed the receiving and distribution of perishables will be greatly aided. The auction sales building is equipped to handle a very large number of cars at one time, as the structure is 1,000 feet long. It is claimed that this building is the largest of its kind in the United States. Additional buildings for private sales and for cold storage purposes are being erected. The adjacent team tracks have a capacity of 360 cars, according to the newspaper report.

9b. MORE NEWS FROM WESTERN SLOPE OF COLORADO.

On the night of October 29, just before leaving Grand Junction, Colo., for Idaho Falls, Idaho, Wendell Calhoun wrote as follows:

"Apples from the Western Slope have been moving slowly, with a weaker tendency the past few days. Demand for Jonathans has been fair, as Idaho stock is reported to be cleaning up and also not of as good quality as the Colorado apples. So, while some of the Jonathans here are reaching the danger period as to ripeness, it looks as though they will all be moved out. The later varieties, of which Romes predominate, are meeting with very slow demand, but they can be held longer.

"Onions are showing some activity and will be in rather steady movement from now on. Potatoes will be rather draggy. Probably not many over 200 cars remain in the Delta-Olathe-Montrose district, exclusive of what is shipped late in the winter from Bostwick Park, on the narrow gauge above Montrose. The thing that puzzles me about this Delta-Olathe-Montrose potato deal is that the prices are lower than anywhere else in the State. They have a 6¢ higher freight rate than the Eastern Slope and the San Luis Valley but the same rate as Carbondale, New Castle, and the Eagle Valley. Apparently, the quality of the stock has something to do with the case. Local dealers admit that the price differential holds most of the time, but their only explanation or comment is: 'We don't see how the other districts can pay the price they do.' "

10b. NO CANADIAN POTATOES BY BOAT TO BOSTON.

Many persons have the idea that, because Boston is not very far from the potato-shipping sections of eastern Canada, considerable quantities of Canadian stock must be shipped to Boston by boat. H. S. Stiles, local market reporter, has looked into the matter carefully, and advises that the boat receipts of potatoes from Canada are negligible, amounting to only a few barrels occasionaly via one of the steamship lines.

E. W. STILLWELL,
Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

Station	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably will close
SPOKANE, WASH., 424 Federal Bldg.	847	A. E. Prugh Mrs. L.B. Gerry	Apples	Aug. 23	Mar. 31
ROCHESTER, N.Y.** 419 Triangle Bldg.	837	R. L. Sutton	Apples	Sept. 10	May 28
			Cabbage	Sept. 10	Mar. 12
			Celery	Sept. 13	Jan. 22
			Carrots	Sept. 14	Apr. 15
			Lettuce*	Sept. 14	Oct. 2*
			Pears	Sept. 15	Nov. 10
			Onions	Sept. 20	Apr. 15
			Peaches*	Sept. 23	Oct. 21*
			Potatoes	Oct. 4	May 28
			Grapes	Oct. 4	Nov. 13
WAUPACA, WIS.** Court House	894	G. D. Clark	Potatoes	Sept. 14	Apr. 2
PRESQUE ISLE, ME. Graves Hardware Block	842	H. E. Rutland	Potatoes	Sept. 15	Mar. 31
MARTINSBURG, W. VA. Berkeley Hotel	835	E. R. Biddle	Apples	Sept. 23	Nov. 19
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.** 29 Norris Bldg.	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Apples	Oct. 29	Nov. 27
			Pears*	Oct. 29	Nov. 5*
			Potatoes	Oct. 29	June 1
			Onions	Oct. 29	Apr. 1
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO 230 Federal Bldg.	845	Wendell Calhoun	Potatoes	Nov. 2	Apr. 15
ORLANDO, FLA.** 108 East Central; MAIL: Box 188.	920	W. H. Hall	Citrus Frt.	Nov. 6	Apr. 15

The following station closed on date indicated:

FRESNO, CALIF.** Sequoia Hotel	919	C. E. Schultz	Grapes	Aug. 5	Nov. 5

** State cooperating. *Reports discontinued.

C. E. Schultz to Los Angeles office.

LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES should keep Washington advised as to changes in dates.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. FREEZING INJURY OF APPLES IN OREGON, IDAHO, UTAH AND COLORADO.

The following air-mail letter was postmarked Denver, Colo., at 2:30 P.M., Tuesday, and was received in Washington on Thursday morning. It was written by Mr. Robb on the train en route to Denver Tuesday morning:-

"Very little freezing injury was suffered in Oregon. Slight advancement of maturity is noticed in Hood River fruit. More than the usual amount of bruising is found, but this is largely due to wiping machinery. Such bruises show up badly on the Newtowns. At Parksdale, which is at the upper end of the Hood River Valley, the temperature was lower and the injury was more serious, the maturity being more advanced, and occasional apples are showing internal discoloration. This is a small district, however, and the amount of fruit so affected is not important.

"At Walla Walla, Wash., and at Milton-Freewater, Oregon, the damage, while not so serious as at Yakima and other principal Washington regions, was worse than at Hood River. Jonathans and Romes in storage are showing ripe to dead-ripe condition, and many lots show internal breakdown.

"The Oregon Grades contain the same provisions regarding freezing injury as are found in the Washington Standards. Therefore, the policies as outlined in Memorandum 62 (- memorandum apparently distributed from the Northwest.- Editor) will apply to receiving-market inspections of Oregon as well as Washington apples.

"Freezing injury in Idaho was much the same as in the principal Washington regions. While the Idaho Grading Rules do not contain specific provision for considering freezing injury, which is not evident at time of packing, as a factor of condition, this has always been done, and Memorandum 62 will apply also to Idaho apples which are inspected in receiving markets.

"So far as I have been able to determine, Utah and Colorado apples were not affected by the freeze of the latter part of September, the temperatures going little if any below the freezing point, and such varieties as Rome, Stayman, Delicious and Winesap are testing from three to five pounds harder than the same varieties which were picked after the freeze in the Northwest."

2c. WESTERN POTATOES DAMAGED BY FREEZE.

In a letter of November 1, V. V. Westgate, of the Omaha office, wrote as follows:

"On my recent trip to Powell, Wyoming, I found the same troubles from frost injury as those experienced in western Nebraska. Heavy losses in the potato fields around Powell were caused by this freeze of September 23 and 24. Added losses have resulted in the potato storage houses and storage cellars, and much trouble has been experienced with this stock after its arrival in the terminal markets."

3c. ADDITIONAL INSPECTIONS IN PENNSYLVANIA.

D. M. James, supervising inspector for shipping-point work in Pennsylvania, has advised that potato inspections in Lehigh and Potter counties began October 1 and will continue until spring. There is a possibility of cabbage inspections at Waterford, in Erie County, at an early date.

ROBERT BIER, - Supervising Inspector.

OFFICE NOTES:

A wire from Mr. Robb indicates that he was in Denver on Tuesday and Omaha on Wednesday, and that he planned to reach the Chicago office today. He probably will stop at Pittsburgh this Saturday, and will be back at his desk in Washington on Monday morning.

Mr. Boree's itinerary calls for a stop at the Kansas City market-news office Thursday and Friday of this week. On Saturday, he will be in Omaha, and by Monday he probably will reach Minneapolis.

J. G. Cross, who is on an extended trip in the interest of railroad reports for several divisions of the Bureau, was at St. Louis the early part of the week. Today, he planned to confer with railway officials at Springfield, Mo., and for the next week or more his itinerary will be as follows: Chicago, Saturday; St. Paul, Nov. 7-9; other Minnesota points on Nov. 10; Omaha, Nov. 11 and 12, and Kansas City on Nov. 13-16.

W. R. Whitacre has about recovered from his recent illness and expects to return to duty in Philadelphia early next week. However, H. F. Willson will remain and assist with the work in Philadelphia until Mr. Biddle returns.

En route from Cincinnati to Philadelphia early this week, A. H. Polster stopped for a day at Martinsburg, W. Va., and conferred with J. J. Gardner and others in that territory.

R. N. Balster, of the Chicago inspection staff, was a witness yesterday in the Municipal Court, Chicago, in connection with a suit over a car of tomatoes which had been inspected.

Leased-wire service has been resumed at Jacksonville, Fla., and at San Antonio, Texas. This service was effective November 1.

W. J. Bertush, who assisted with New York City inspections for a few weeks, returned some days ago to his headquarters in Chicago.

Best wishes are being extended a new bride in the Washington office. Miss Ellen C. O'Donnell, of Mr. Clay's section, was married on October 20 in Baltimore to Mr. Arthur Jones. They returned from the honeymoon this week.

B. E. Shaffer returned to the Washington office on Tuesday. For nearly five months, he was in the Pacific Northwest, where he made a special study of many products, particularly the standardization of cherries, prunes, apples, pears, onions, potatoes and berries.

R. R. Pailthorp left on Sunday night for New England points, in connection with the grading of apples. He expects to examine some New England apples in storage.

The list of field headquarters of shipping-point inspection work is not published in this D.L., because there have been no changes since Oct. 29.

OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

Wm. E. Lewis has gone to the onion-shipping sections of northern Indiana to make a study of staining of onions in relation to the grades for this product. He will confer with F. M. Lyle, supervising inspector at Warsaw, and with other interested parties.

E. L. Sechrist, Associate Apiculturist in the Bee Culture Division of the Bureau of Entomology, is in New York City this week, conducting a demonstration of the grading of honey in accordance with the standards for this product, proposed by the Department.

O. G. Strauss has advised that his office address is 108 East Central Avenue, Orlando, Fla., and that mail can be sent to P. O. Box 188, as in previous seasons.

After attending the fruit growers' meeting at Fullerton next Wednesday, C. E. Schultz will make his headquarters at the Los Angeles office until his next field assignment in California.

It has been decided to operate the Martinsburg, W. Va., field station another two weeks, and E. R. Biddle will remain there in charge of that market-news work. Local shippers agreed to help finance this extended service.

J. W. Park has been at Aberdeen, N.C.; Macon and Fort Valley, Ga., and at Sanford, Fla., collecting price data and other information on 1926 peaches. Latest reports of his work were received from Macon.

W. F. Allewelt, Chief of the California Bureau of Fruit and Vegetable Standardization, at Sacramento, was in Los Angeles last Saturday, where, with other officials of the State Civil Service Board, he held an examination for fruit and vegetable inspectors, Grades 2 and 3. H. A. Harris, of our Los Angeles office, also assisted in giving this examination. It is understood that similar tests for State inspectors were held this week at Fresno, San Francisco and Sacramento.

H. W. Peterson, one of the Federal-State supervising inspectors in California, changed his headquarters recently from Fresno to Los Angeles, and can now be addressed at Room 285, Wholesale Terminal Bldg., Los Angeles. He will cover the widely-scattered shipping districts in southern California.

F. C. Cadwallader, who supervised grape inspections around Ontario, Calif., has now returned to his headquarters in Los Angeles.

On the Market Station Address List, please insert the following residence address after J. G. Scott's name at Denver: 457 South Franklin Street; phone South 1928-R.

On the Inspectors' Address List, please change the residence address for W. H. Steinbauer, at Boston, to read as follows: Suite 2, No. 9 Egremont Road, Brookline, Mass.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 7, NO. 46
Nov. 12, 1926
(Contents Confidential)

1a. SITUATION IN LAREDO AND WINTER GARDEN DISTRICTS OF TEXAS:

Writing from San Antonio on November 1, J. A. Hunter gave the following additional information on conditions in South Texas:

Spinach plantings in the Laredo and Winter Garden districts will be somewhat increased this season, particularly around Crystal City, where 8,000 acres may be put out, with an estimated tonnage of 3,000 cars, compared with 2,100 cars last year. At Laredo there is an actual decrease, which will partly offset the gains elsewhere. Seed was not germinating as well as might be desired, so that movement will not be brisk before January 1, though some shipments will be made during December. It is understood that the spinach acreage around Austin will be about the same as last year, or probably 2,000 acres.

Onion plantings will be reduced this season, if present sentiment is any indication. Laredo operators figure that there will be 2,500 to 2,600 acres in that section, compared with 3,300 a year ago. In the Winter Garden district, about 1,600 acres are expected, at the most; this figure may finally be reduced to about 1,200. There still is heavy growing of onion plants for commercial shipment. Five companies, rather close together, are estimated to have a total of 1,500 acres of plants. One of these companies alone expects to sell possibly 2,000,000,000 plants. However, if outside demand does not come up to expectations, there would be more of these plants available for local use, which might change the acreage figures for South Texas.

Diversification of crops is increasing. One large operator is developing a tract of some 600 acres, on which he is planting eight of ten products. Among the vegetables grown in this territory are string beans, tomatoes, cabbage, beets, carrots, peppers, eggplant, romaine, and sugar beets. Romaine seems to be especially successful. Experiments made last year in the growing of Brussels sprouts in the Winter Garden district were not very successful.

2a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR NOVEMBER 6:

Page 293 - Apples Attracting Attention. (weekly review)
295 - Field Stations in the West and South.
- Green Peas in Colorado, - by Wendell Calhoun.
- Freeze Reduces Northwestern Apple Crop, - by A. E. Prugh.
301 - Arkansas Sweet Potatoes Widely Distributed.
304 - Agricultural Export Index Numbers for September.
- British Apple Prices Decline Further.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. NO UNUSUAL ROT IN MAINE POTATOES.

H. E. Rutland, in charge of the Presque Isle field station, wrote the following letter on November 6 to W. H. Stanton, at New York City, after the latter had advised that he heard a number of persons on the market talking about rot in Maine potatoes this season:

"Every year there is a certain amount of rot to be found in this section, but, from a commercial standpoint, its effect on the crop movement for the last three years has been practically nil. A few farmers and dealers are finding small quantities of rot this year, as usual. This is confined mostly to fields dug after the early snow, from which the potatoes were stored wet.

"New York City takes a rather large proportion of its supply of Maine potatoes from the Limestone section of Aroostook County. This section was slower in getting its crop dug this year, and potatoes from that territory are showing more rot than those from other sections. I have heard no more than the usual number of complaints of the early stored crop showing rot, and there is nothing alarming in the situation here."

2b. A BIT OF HISTORY.

As a matter of record for future reference, and as a matter of interest and information to those of our personnel who have become identified with the Fruit and Vegetable Division during recent years, the following historical facts are presented by W. L. Evans, who has been in the Division since 1915:-

That part of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics which includes the work of the Fruit and Vegetable Division was first known as the -

OFFICE OF MARKETS, created by the Secretary of Agriculture on May 16, 1913, under authority of the appropriation Act, signed March 4, 1913. Purpose: "To enable the Secretary of Agriculture to acquire and to diffuse among the people of the United States useful information on subjects connected with the marketing and distributing of farm products." First Chief was Charles J. Brand. Through later changes, its name was changed as follows:

OFFICE OF MARKETS AND RURAL ORGANIZATION, July 1, 1915, when the Office of Markets was combined with the Office of Rural Organization.

BUREAU OF MARKETS, July 1, 1917.

BUREAU OF MARKETS AND CROP ESTIMATES, July 1, 1921, when the Bureau of Markets and Bureau of Crop Estimates were consolidated.

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS, July 1, 1922, when there was added the Office of Farm Management.

Similar development of the work, which became the Division of Fruits and Vegetables, was as follows:

Market Surveys, Methods and Costs Project, May 16, 1913.

Market Grades and Standards Project, May 16, 1913.

Enforcement of U.S. Standard Container Act, November 1, 1917.

Market News Service, July 1, 1916, outgrowth of Market Surveys Project.

Food Products Inspection Service, August 10, 1917, outgrowth of the Grades and Standards Project.

Division of Fruits and Vegetables, November 29, 1919, combining all the above.

The first branch offices of this Bureau were opened by us; see list, next page:

EARLY HISTORY OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE ON FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:
(stations arranged in the order of issuance of first report)

City	First Report	First Project Representative	First Permanent Quarters Occupied	Location	In Charge
CHICAGO.....	*4-17-15	J.P.Klein	5- 1-16	220 N. State St.	I.J.Woodin
NEW YORK.....	*6-15-15	A.D.Gail, Jr.	4- 1-16	507 Frt.TradeBldg	M.M.Stewart
ST. LOUIS.....	*7- 1-15	P.C.Isbell	3-29-16	413 Old Custom H.	J.P.Klein
BALTIMORE.....	*7- 2-15	J.E.Griffith	2-26-17	411 Custom House	E.R.Biddle
Buffalo.....	*7- 6-15	H.P.Henry	3-28-16	64 W. Market St.	G.E.Engle
KANSAS CITY...	*7-20-15	J.W.Park	4- 1-16	209 Produce Exch.	P.C.Isbell
PITTSBURGH....	3-27-16	C.R.Dorland	3-24-16	Central Trust Bld	C.R.Dorland
BOSTON.....	3-28-16	J.C.Gilbert	3-24-16	Custom House	J.C.Gilbert
PHILADELPHIA..	4- 3-16	A.D.Gail, Jr.	3-24-16	Insurance Exc.Bld	A.D.Gail, Jr.
MINNEAPOLIS...	4- 4-16	H.P.Henry	4- 1-16	Mkt.StateBank Bld	H.P.Henry
CINCINNATI....	8-12-16	R.H.Shoemaker	9- 1-16	307 Johnston Bldg	R.H.Shoemaker
DENVER.....	10-23-16	W.H.Kerr	10-20-16	Custom House	W.H.Kerr
ATLANTA.....	9- 6-17	C.W.Chewning	9- 1-17	Atlanta Nat.Bank	From HERE down
SPOKANE.....	9-21-17	R.M.Rutledge	9-15-17	424 Federal Bldg.	the first pro-
Cleveland.....	9-21-17	W.P.Johnson	9-15-17	2403 East 9th St.	ject repre-
Detroit.....	10- 2-17	W.G.Thompson	10- 1-17	404 New Telegraph	sentative was
FORT WORTH....	10- 8-17	J.J.Sullivan	10- 1-17	511 First Nat.Bk.	man in charge.
Columbus.....	10-15-17	W.H.Mosier	10- 8-17	303 Martlin Bldg.	
Memphis.....	10-16-17	Leo Egalite	10-11-17	804 Exchange Bldg	
Omaha.....	10-16-17	R. Kent	10- 1-17	506 Farnam Bldg.	
Birmingham....	10-26-17	T.C.Bushfield	11- 1-17	Jefferson County Savings BankBldg.	
New Orleans...	11-10-17	G.M.Meyer	11- 1-17	Metropolitan Bank	
Jacksonville..	11-26-17	F.T.Read	12- 1-17	909 Bisbee Bldg.	
Indianapolis..	12- 7-17	E.D.McNulty	12- 1-17	1102 City Trust B	
PORTLAND.....	12-11-17	R.L.Ringer	12- 1-17	Chamber of Comm.	
Des Moines....	1- 5-18	Peter Peterson	1- 1-18	215 U.S.Courthouse	
SAN FRANCISCO.	1-28-18	L.J.Case	1-20-18	1131 Merchants Exchange	
Houston.....	1-29-18	R.L.Lumbard	1-21-18	Sou.Pacific Bldg.	
Oklahoma City.	3-25-18	J.H.Hoover	3- 4-18	514 Mercantile Bldg.	
LOS ANGELES...	5- 3-18	H.H.Warner	5- 1-18	Wholesale Terminal	
Butte.....	5- 8-18	L.J.Case	5- 1-18	428 Rialto Bldg.	
Fargo.....	5-15-18	O.J.McDonald	4-27-18	619 Second Ave.	
SALT LAKE CITY	7-26-23	J.R.Duncan	7-16-23	304-306 Capitol B	

*Date first project representative assigned.

NOTE: Many of these offices were closed after the termination of the World War and were never reopened as market news offices. Some were closed for a year or more and then reopened. A few, which were originally market news offices, have now become offices of the Inspection Service. Only those stations written in CAPITAL letters are now operated as branch offices of the Market News Service.

(KEEP this sheet for future reference.)

3b. HOW IDAHO POTATOES ARE PACKED AND QUOTED.

The following information from Wendell Calhoun, at Idaho Falls, is of importance to all market-news men. The letter was dated November 8:-

"The use of the so-called 'California pack' on Idaho Russet Burbanks seems to be undergoing some change this season. Originally, the 'California pack' was made to meet the requirements of the California Weevil Quarantine. Potatoes had to be resacked at the car door in new or recleaned bags, so that any of the insects would be shaken off the potatoes. and would not be carried on the sack. In practice, of course, this means running over a grader at the warehouse, after which the potatoes go into the 'bug room' (that part of the warehouse which is kept free from infection) until a car is to be loaded.

"Naturally, this warehouse regrading into new or recleaned bags improved the product, and eastern demand began to specify 'California pack.' This year, Idaho has been largely crowded out of California markets by the Yakima section and by Oregon and Nevada, which have lower transportation charges. So, 'California pack' is losing much of its original significance. However, it has met with so much favor in the East over the ordinary 'farmer pack' or 'eastern pack,' that probably the majority of eastern orders now specify 'California pack.' Then, dealers in the East found that they often received an 'eastern California pack,' or one that was not quite so good, and many of them now demand the weevil certificate. This certificate is of no direct use to them, but it does guarantee that the stock actually is regraded at a warehouse into new or recleaned bags. These recleaned bags, by the way, are mostly shipped in from California, where they have gone through special recleaning plants.

"In view of the fact that comparatively few of Idaho's shipments are going to California and also because of some confusion of the term noted on eastern market-report sheets, I have substituted for 'California pack' in the regular f.o.b. report the phrase: 'warehouse regraded, new or recleaned bags.' It means practically the same, and this stock is the basis of the shipping-point market. While considerable of the regular U.S.No.1 stock is shipped just as it is graded in the farmers' cellars, this sells according to the market on regraded stock. If it is as good, it may bring as much. If not, it will bring a nickel, dime, or even more under the price for regraded stock, according to how it compares. It is the regraded stock on which the market is established, and hence the only one that can be quoted satisfactorily.

"On January 1, Idaho will put into effect a new ruling that every sack of potatoes must be even-weighted and have plainly stamped on the bag, or on a tag securely attached, the grade of the contents. This will go a step farther in putting everything into the 'warehouse regraded' class."

4b. PEAR REPORTS DISCONTINUED.

As the New York pear season is about finished, mimeographed market reports on this fruit were discontinued in Washington on November 10.

ABOUT 10,000,000 BUSHELS were added to the potato crop estimate during October, making the total midway between last year's crop and the average.

5b. NEW YORK CELERY IN COUNTRY AND CITY STORAGE.

In response to an inquiry from Boston, W. H. Stanton wrote the following letter on November 8:

"Recently I learned that there are approximately 558,000 crates of celery in the various storages located in Wayne County, New York. These figures cover stock in storage up to and including last Saturday, November 6. Probably there is some additional celery in storages outside of Wayne County and, of course, there are some carloads in the various terminal markets. It is estimated that there are roughly 200 cars in storage in and around New York City, and probably lesser quantities in such cities as Philadelphia, Boston, Baltimore and Pittsburgh. In connection with the figures given for Wayne County, the total is approximately 100,000 crates more than last season.

"In western New York, the season charge for a crate of celery varies from 55¢ to 60¢. In New York City there is a charge of 30¢ per crate for the first month and 25¢ for each month thereafter, and it can be stated generally that the season cost in New York is therefore approximately 80¢.

"I understand that the growers and shippers in western New York are asking $1.75 for the stock in storage. In addition to this cost, the storage charges and the freight make the cost laid down in New York approximately $2.90 per crate. Most of the stock in storage in New York City cost dealers $1.25-to $1.50 per crate, from reports I hear, and this would make the cost of this celery range from approximately $2 to $2.30 to the local dealer."

6b. INTERESTING LAND DEVELOPMENT IN TEXAS:

"One of the most interesting developments that has taken place in Texas during the year is the opening-up of agriculture on the Catarina Project, between Bart and Asherton. It is estimated that there are in the neighborhood of 1,000 acres of dry-land spinach being grown for the first time on this land and possibly not to exceed 150 acres under irrigation. There are also around 150 acres of irrigated onions. Most of these plantings are on land that was cleared and broken in the spring, with a view to being in condition to grow crops this winter. Besides this, there are beautiful stretches of very appreciable size being tractor-broken at the present time, but such crops as may be grown on them this winter will not enter marketing channels to any extent and will probably be turned under to bring the soil into condition for another season's cultivation. Nearly 100 acres of citrus, mostly oranges, have just been set out in this section, but, as irrigation facilities are only partially developed, this venture may be a bit precarious. They are having to go rather deep for water, but the supply at 1,250 to 1,500 feet is plentiful, and some are getting a good flow at 850. An idea of the development may be had when it is considered that six months' sales in this project alone have totaled millions of dollars, some 37,000 acres having been sold. It is generally calculated that the cost per acre for drilling the well, placing pumping machinery and building the necessary reservoirs, runs in the neighborhood of $75 and, with a clearing cost of between $12 and $20 an acre (depending on the type of brush on the land), this makes the average cost of farms in the section around $137 to $145 an acre. The land sells in the brush mostly for $50 an acre." (written by J. A. Hunter)

E. W. STILLWELL,
Specialist in Market News.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. SPECIFICATIONS FOR "HASKELL'S HEAVYPACK BRAND."

The following special grades were filed with the Director of Agriculture of the State of Washington, as required by the Washington Standardization Law. These specifications should be used in the inspection of fruit packed under this brand:

BLUE LABEL grade shall consist of apples conforming to the requirements of the "Extra Fancy" or "First" grade in the Washington Standards for grading and packing of apples and pears, as published by the State Department of Agriculture, Division of Horticulture, for the season of 1926; provided, however, that in all red or striped varieties the minimum color permitted in this grade shall be not less than ten per cent in excess of the minimum specified for "Extra Fancy" grade in said Washington Standards. Boxes containing this grade of apples shall be marked "BLUE LABEL" or shall bear the Blue Label of the HASKELL'S HEAVYPACK BRAND.

RED LABEL grade shall consist of apples conforming to the requirements of the "Fancy" or "Second" grade in the Washington Standards for grading and packing of apples and pears, as published by the State Department of Agriculture, Division of Horticulture, for the season of 1926; provided, however, that in all red or striped varieties, the minimum color permitted in this grade shall be not less than ten per cent in excess of the minimum specified for "Fancy" grade in said Washington Standards. Boxes containing this grade of apples shall be marked "RED LABEL" or shall bear the Red Label of the HASKELL'S HEAVYPACK BRAND.

2c. REVISED PRODUCTS CIRCULAR ON PINEAPPLES.

With this D.L., copies of the revised Products Circular on Pineapples are being sent to all inspectors. This contains six sheets of paper, or 12 mimeographed pages.

3c. INSPECTIONS IN STATE OF WASHINGTON.

Inspection Letter No. 13, issued at Yakima, Wash., on October 26 contains a tabulation, showing 2,257 inspections made in that State during the months of July and August. About 1,675 inspections were made during August, including 657 cars of pears, 362 apples, and 225 prunes. Potatoes, onions and peaches each exceeded 100 cars.

ATTENTION OF ALL INSPECTORS is invited to Par. 2b on page 572 of this Division Letter, and to the table on page 573. Many will be interested to learn about the beginnings of the fruit and vegetable work, - particularly the time when offices were first opened. Find your office among those which are listed in the table.

RECEIVING-POINT INSPECTIONS DURING OCTOBER, 1926.

Markets	Total Inspections	Total Same Month 1925	Inspections for Carriers	Declined for Lack of Time	Total Fees
Atlanta	95	69	5	2	$393.00
Baltimore	19	18	1	0	76.00
Boston	78	118	47	0	328.50
Buffalo	16	23	5	0	62.50
Chicago	815	220	5	4	2568.00
Cincinnati	35	45	0	0	156.00
Cleveland	54	46	3	0	276.00
Columbus	32	14	0	0	130.00
Denver	10	11	0	0	40.00
Detroit	63	50	5	0	266.00
Fort Worth	61	43	0	0	235.00
Harrisburg	2	3	0	0	8.00
Houston	34	8	0	0	121.00
Indianapolis	24	22	0	0	98.00
Jacksonville	48	0	0	0	193.00
Kansas City	72	70	7	0	297.50
Los Angeles	27	0	1	1	111.00
Memphis	58	53	47	0	236.00
Milwaukee	39	19	0	0	150.50
Minneapolis	50	22	1	0	235.00
Newark	0	30	0	0	--
New Haven	60	57	10	0	249.00
New Orleans	130	136	79	0	516.50
New York	879	1183	12	0	3481.00
Norfolk	11	23	1	8	45.50
Omaha	11	18	2	0	45.50
Philadelphia	49	57	1	0	216.00
Pittsburgh	88	189	31	0	385.50
Portland	23	130	0	0	86.50
St. Louis	123	112	44	0	482.63
Salt Lake City	2	1	0	0	8.00
San Diego	2	0	0	0	8.00
San Francisco	8	14	0	0	27.50
Trenton	0	0	0	0	--
Washington	18	30	3	0	75.00
Wilkes Barre	17	14	2	0	73.00
Total	3053	2848	312	15	$11680.63

RECORD of Navy inspections for October will be published next week.

4c. INSPECTIONS OF EXPORT APPLES GOING TO SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES.

Edwin Smith has advised that he held a conference with the principal fruit agents while in Norway and thoroughly explained all phases of our Inspection Service. This threw much light on difficulties experienced last year by importers who were depending upon our certificates without knowing just what they were intended to cover and without full knowledge of the specifications of the United States and New York State apple grades. A summary of the conference was to the following effect:

(a) Clear-Cut Specifications Should Be Given: In the Scandinavian trade, where color varieties are expected to have 50% color and where the size is expected to range between 2¼" and 2½" and not to contain large-sized fruit, as is the case where barrels are packed and marked in minimum sizes, specifications should be clearly stated in the orders, as the exporter who buys apples in the open market on our present grade specifications and fills orders for Scandinavian firms, will not give satisfaction.

(b) Requests for Inspection: Requests for Government inspection, covering such orders, should advise the Inspection Service that a statement is required on the certificate, describing the amount of color carried by most of the fruit, as well as the description of the diameters.

(c) Place and Time of Inspection: Inspections of fruit, filling orders in the Scandinavian trade, should be made on the dock or in the storage warehouse immediately prior to shipment.

(d) General Instructions to Inspectors: Our inspectors should be advised to state the amount of color, and the sizes within the barrel, along with their other remarks, in all instances when they know that the apples so inspected are for the Scandinavian trade.

In view of these conclusions, all certificates issued on lots intended for export to Scandinavian countries in the future should show clearly the range of size within the barrels and the amount of color shown by the fruit, as well as the simple statement that it meets the requirements of New York Standard A grade and that the sizes are not smaller than 2¼ inches. The fuller statements on the certificates will be of great assistance to those who are not thoroughly familiar with the detailed specifications of our grades.

5c. PHYTOPETHORA ROT IN CALIFORNIA TOMATOES.

G. B. Ramsey, Associate Pathologist in the Chicago office of B.P.I., has submitted the following letter, which is dated November 8:

"At the present time, a great many of the California tomatoes arriving on the markets show a semi-watery to watery decay about the stem end and upper half of the fruits. This decay has some of the characteristics of Buckeye Rot, and has been diagnosed as such by many inspectors. There is just enough difference, however, to cause most inspectors to doubt their diagnosis. This confusion is due to the fact that the causal organism is not the fungus Phytophthora terrestria which causes Buckeye Rot, but another species of Phytophthora which is identical with, or closely related to, the species which causes Late Blight of potatoes.

(continued on next page)

"Buckeye Rot usually appears on the lower half of the tomato fruits, and, although the lesions spread rapidly, they remain rather firm and seldom show much surface mycelium. The affected regions are grayish-green to brownish-green, with here and there irregularly-shaped brown zones, which sometimes appear as concentric rings.

"The type of decay now found in the California stock should be called Phytophthora Rot. The causal organism usually enters at the stem end, or about the upper half of the fruit. The lesions produced are large greenish water-soaked, irregular blotches, and a fine white mycelium is often noticeable on the surface and in the stem scar. The affected regions are soft and watery and lack the brown zonation found in Buckeye Rot."

6c. OCTOBER SUPPLEMENT TO "CROPS AND MARKETS."

The October Supplement to "Crops and Markets" came from the press a few days ago. One feature of special interest to members of our Division is an article on page 325, entitled: "Effect of the Supply of Potatoes on Farm Prices and Crop Values." The article is illustrated with a chart.

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Sherman will leave this Saturday for points in the Southeast. He will go first to Clemson College, S.C., where he will confer with George E. Prince and others. By Monday, he will be at our Atlanta office. On Tuesday, Mr. Sherman will be the principal speaker at a State-wide meeting of peach growers, to be assembled at Macon at the call of the Georgia Peach Growers' Exchange. At this gathering, he will discuss problems of marketing Georgia peaches and possible solutions of some of these problems in the 1927 season. On the return trip to Washimgton, Mr. Sherman may stop for a day at Charlotte. N.C., and confer with Bolling Hall regarding the inspection work in that region. A visit may also be made to the State offices at Richmond, Va.

OFFICE NOTES (CONTINUED):

Mr. Pailthorp returned yesterday morning from his recent trip to New England points in the interest of apple grades.

In addition to conferring with growers, shippers and inspectors in the northern-Indiana onion districts, Wm. E. Lewis is visiting inspectors in several markets, principally Chicago, Cleveland, Pittsburgh and New York, and holding conferences regarding the grading and packing of onions.

Mr. Samson will go to Manchester, N.H., and address a meeting of the New Hampshire Horticultural Society on November 17. He will discuss the standardization of apples. En route, Mr. Samson may stop at New York and Boston, to confer with F. & V. representatives in those markets.

Many of the city offices and temporary field stations were closed on Thursday, November 11, because Armistice Day was observed as a local holiday.

Grape auction reports will be continued for the benefit of San Francisco office until November 20.

R. L. Ringer, of the Portland office, sent a radio message on Saturday to the effect that the Oregon cauliflower shipments are about completed. It is estimated locally that probably half the crop was left in the fields because of low market prices.

PLEASE NOTE that the Denver office of the News Service will move next Saturday, November 20, to Rooms 408 and 409 Sugar Bldg., 1530 - 16th Street. Make this change at once on your new Market Station Address List.

The residence address of J. H. Hoover, at Atlanta, Ga., should be changed on both the Market Station Address List and the Inspectors' Address List to read as follows: 248 E. Wesley Road, Garden Hills, Atlanta; phone Geneva 8239-M.

Mr. Boree spent the first part of this week at Minneapolis, and planned to be at Waupaca and Stevens Point, Wis., today and Saturday. He probably will reach the Chicago office by Monday or Tuesday.

Leaving Kansas City next Tuesday, J. G. Cross expects to be at Houston, Texas, on November 20-22, at New Orleans on the 27th and will go to Jacksonville, Fla., by the 29th.

H. A. Spilman goes to Cincinnati early next week, to attend the meeting of the American Veneer Package Association, where he will discuss the standardization of containers. He plans to stop first at Columbus, for a conference with the city Sealer of Weights and Measures.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 7, NO. 47
Nov. 19, 1926.
(Contents Confidential)

1a. EXPENSE ACCOUNTS:

According to a recent request of the Comptroller General, persons who claim subsistence for official travel by automobile for less than 24 hours duration, where departure from official station is before 8 A.M. and return is after 6 P.M., must add to the voucher a statement explaining the necessity for such early departure or late return. In default of compliance with this requirement, subsistence charges cannot be approved for payment. This statement should be detailed and not stereotyped. See the next issue of The B.A.E. News for further information.

In view of the recent amendment to Par. 654 of the Department Administrative Regulations, requiring the monthly transmittal of copies of authorizations for travel to the General Accounting Office, it will be even more important than in the past that any necessary travel not already authorized be reported promptly (if not in advance), since amendments cannot be drawn to cover travel performed during the period for which copies have already been transmitted to the General Accounting Office. See Par. 77, Adm. Suppl.

2a. FLORIDA CITRUS SITUATION:

In a letter of November 15, from Orlando, Fla., W. H. Hall gave the following information on grapefruit and oranges:-

"Induced by rather high prices, Florida grapefruit shipments increased rapidly after November 1, and by November 9th the daily movement had reached 152 cars. This is considered an unusually heavy movement this early in season, especially in view of the damage caused by the September storm. Shippers, having in mind the old saying that 'to ship more than 100 cars daily means trouble,' agreed to reduce shipments to a point where at least a fair return could be expected. By November 12, daily output had dropped well below 100 cars. However, the terminal markets are heavily supplied with high-priced grapefruit, and it will no doubt take several days for the market to react to these lighter shipments. Present f.o.b. carlot market is very weak at $2.75-$3.10. The quality is excellent and operators anticipate at least fair prices for the season as a whole, apparently basing their opinion on tha fact that this season's crop is substantially less than last season's. The heaviest damage from the September storm occurred in Dade and Lee counties, with moderate damage in DeSoto, Manatee, Polk and Pinellas counties.

"The orange market is strong at $4.00-$4.50 for 176's and larger, the smaller sizes being discounted 25¢ to 50¢ per box. Sizes are running smaller than usual, and in many sections considerable splitting is noted.

"The State law, requiring oranges and grapefruit to meet the prescribed acid test, has undoubtedly held down the orange shipments. This law becomes inoperative after November 26. After that date a much heavier movement is expected."

(5S1)

3a. NINETY F. & V. EMPLOYEES APPOINTED PRIOR TO 1919.

Continuing the "Bit of History," published in the last D.L., below is a list of present F. & V. employees, who were appointed prior to 1919. Please advise the D.L. editor of omissions or errors in this list:-

MEMBERS OF TECHNICAL STAFF:

Name	Appointed	Present Location
WELLS A. SHERMAN.....	July 1, 1913	Washington(in Dept. since'95)
R. Maynard Peterson.....	June 1, 1914	Minneapolis
L. Herbert Martin.....	Mar. 5, 1915	Washington
Paul Froehlich.....	Mar. 25, 1915	Washington
J. Wm. Park.....	May 11, 1915	Washington
Wm. L. Evans.....	May 24, 1915	Washington
B. C. Boree.....	Aug. 16, 1915	Washington
A. E. Pough.....	Mar. 13, 1916	Spokane
W. H. Stanton.....	Mar. 23, 1916	New York City
Wm. D. Googe.....	Mar. 24, 1916	Fort Worth
H. J. Clay.....	Apr. 24, 1916	Washington
R. H. Shoemaker.....	Apr. 24, 1916	Grand Rapids
H. A. Harris.....	Aug. 10, 1916	Los Angeles
H. A. Spilman.....	Sept. 1, 1916	Washington
Miss Lucy Watt.....	Sept. 1, 1916	Washington
E. R. Biddle.....	Sept. 5, 1916	Philadelphia
R. L. Ringer.....	Mar. 19, 1917	Portland
W. F. Allewelt.....	Apr. 10, 1917	Sacramento
J. K. Boyd.....	May 14, 1917	Pittsburgh
E. E. Conklin, Jr.....	May 14, 1917	Sacramento
E. F. McKune.....	May 28, 1917	Denver
Herbert Graff.....	June 11, 1917	Washington
E. W. Stillwell.....	June 28, 1917	Washington
M. L. Henry.....	Aug. 16, 1917	New York City
F. G. Robb.....	Sept. 1, 1917	Washington
Mrs. L. B. Gerry.....	Sept. 17, 1917	Spokane
Walter Kingsbury.....	Oct. 1, 1917	Salt Lake City
W. H. Mosier.....	Oct. 1, 1917	Cincinnati
L. G. Schultz.....	Oct. 10, 1917	Boise
G. B. Fiske.....	Nov. 3, 1917	Washington
W. H. Hall.....	Nov. 12, 1917	Chicago
Ray C. Bish.....	Nov. 19, 1917	Cleveland
W. C. Hackleman.....	Nov. 26, 1917	New York City
G. W. Payne.....	Nov. 26, 1917	New York City
R. C. Butner.....	Dec. 1, 1917	Chicago
J. H. Hoover.....	Dec. 12, 1917	Atlanta
S. F. Shreve.....	Dec. 15, 1917	Baltimore
H. V. DeMott.....	Jan. 14, 1918	Washington
R. G. Hill.....	Jan. 14, 1918	Washington
A. E. Mercker.....	Jan. 14, 1918	Rochester
J. B. Wright.....	Jan. 28, 1918	San Pedro

(continued on next page)

Name	Appointed	Present Location
Paul W. Barnes.....	Feb. 20, 1918	Columbus
E. A. Arenz.....	Mar. 1, 1918	Milwaukee
F. S. Kinsey.....	Mar. 15, 1918	Charlottesville,Va.
H. W. Samson.....	Apr. 16, 1918	Washington
M. A. Russell.....	May 1, 1918	Chicago
C. D. Shirley.....	May 1, 1918	Chicago
V. V. Westgate.....	May 1, 1918	Omaha
J. W. Strowbridge.....	May 10, 1918	Washington
Fredk. Wolfarth.....	May 23, 1918	New York City
C. J. Hansen.....	June 1, 1918	San Francisco
H. H. Henderson.....	June 1, 1918	Norfolk
J. A. Marks.....	June 1, 1918	Pittsburgh
R. R. Pailthorp.....	June 1, 1918	Washington
W. E. Harrison.....	July 26, 1918	Baltimore
E. J. Maynard.....	Aug. 21, 1918	Chicago
G. C. Bayley.....	Sept. 9, 1918	Detroit
J. G. Cross(Transportation)	Sept. 16, 1918	Washington
MEMBERS OF CLERICAL STAFF:		
Aaron Stambaugh.....	May 11, 1915	Washington
Miss Cecelia M. Daly.....	Sept. 14, 1916	Rochester
Miss Edna M. Walker.....	May 1, 1917	Washington
Miss Mary E. Gott.....	June 24, 1917	Washington
Miss Mary Etta Boyles.....	July 16, 1917	Washington
Miss Nora K. Callahan.....	Aug. 23, 1917	Boston
Miss Grace L. Robinson....	Sept. 12, 1917	Washington
Mrs. Caroline Lacy.....	Sept. 19, 1917	Washington
Miss Lillian Kephart.....	Sept. 24, 1917	Washington
Miss Mary B. Hall.....	Oct. 8, 1917	Washington
Miss Myrtle R. Beeman.....	Oct. 22, 1917	St. Louis
Miss Marie M. Lynch.....	Oct. 31, 1917	Philadelphia
Miss Dena Hammer.....	Nov. 12, 1917	Washington
Miss Bertie Brose.....	Nov. 13, 1917	Washington
Mrs. Sallie Ewin.....	Nov. 21, 1917	Washington
Mrs. Alice Richey.....	Dec. 1, 1917	Washington
Mrs. Minnie M. Aylor.....	Dec. 4, 1917	Washington
Miss Pearl Edwards.....	Dec. 17, 1917	Washington
Thos. C. J. Baker.....	Feb. 7, 1918	Washington
Mrs. Ethel Mills.....	Apr. 12, 1918	Washington
Mrs. R. E. Barlow.....	June 1, 1918	Washington
Miss Verna M. Schult.....	June 24, 1918	Los Angeles
Miss Psyche Clemens.....	June 27, 1918	Kansas City
Mrs. Ethel S. Rice.....	Aug. 5, 1918	Washington
Miss Anna L. Leonard.....	Aug. 8, 1918	Philadelphia
Edwin Crosthwait.....	Aug. 19, 1918	Washington
Mrs. Charlotte U. Kast....	Aug. 21, 1918	New York City
Mrs. Hattie F. Day.....	Aug. 23, 1918	Washington
Mrs. Hilda M. Bailey.....	Oct. 25, 1918	Washington
Miss Julia Collier.....	Nov. 20, 1918	Washington
Miss Margaret Blanche.....	Nov. 25, 1918	Philadelphia
Miss Anna V. McLaughlin...	Dec. 2, 1918	New York City

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. ADDITIONS TO THE CODE, EFFECTIVE NOV. 26:

Add to "PO" (Tomatoes) page of code:

EN - Ripes and turning, wrapped.

Add to "PA-PE" (Potatoes) page of code:

IT - Warehouse regraded, new or recleaned bags.

2b. QUOTATIONS ON APPLES.

Par. 3b in the Division Letter for October 8 called attention of market reporters to the necessity of quoting consistently the important market varieties of apples. In the barreled varieties, special effort is again requested to secure prices on Baldwins, Greenings, Yorks, Jonathans and Ben Davis. For boxed stock, prices are needed regularly on Extra Fancy, medium to large Winesaps, Delicious and Rome Beauty, if these varieties and this grade and size of stock appear on your market.

3b. ADDITIONAL SUMMARIES DISTRIBUTED:

The following summaries of recent shipping seasons are being mailed:-
MARKETING WESTERN NEW YORK APPLES, Season of 1925-26, by A. E. Prugh.
MARKETING WESTERN NEW YORK ONIONS, Season of 1925-26, by A. E. Prugh.
MARKETING COLORADO APPLES, Season of 1925, by J. D. Evers.
MARKETING TEXAS SPINACH, Season of 1925-26, by J. A. Hunter.
MARKETING IMPERIAL VALLEY LETTUCE, Season of 1925-26, by C. E. Schultz.

4b. SCANDINAVIAN APPLE TRADE.

F.S.:A-79, "Problems in the Scandinavian Apple Trade," is the latest mimeographed report to be issued by the Foreign Marketing Section. Edwin Smith is the author.

5b. REVIEW OF CALIFORNIA GRAPE SEASON.

On November 6, just before closing the Fresno field station, C. E. Schultz mimeographed and distributed an eight-page review of the 1926 grape season in California. This is a comprehensive report, including three pages of text and five pages of tables. Copies probably can be had from Mr. Schultz, who is now at the Los Angeles office. A few copies are available from Washington.

6b. SPECIAL REPORTS ON CHRISTMAS TREES.

At the request of the Director of Extension Work, University of Vermont, at Burlington, Vt., a mail report will be furnished him each Friday from now until Christmas, covering the arrivals and prices of Christmas trees in the following markets: Washington, Philadelphia, New York, Boston and Pittsburgh. These reports will be mailed directly to Vermont by the local representatives, and the information probably will appear in the mimeographed bulletins.

7b. USE "AND" IN MARKET WIRES, WHEN NECESSARY FOR CLEARNESS.

Brevity in market wires is desirable, but clearness of meaning is more important. It is for this reason we request that unusual words be repeated in the wires. Occasionally, the need for clearness will render desirable the use of seemingly unnecessary words.

"And" is one of these words. Decoders are sometimes uncertain, when potato varieties from two States follow each other without a price intervening, whether the first price was omitted in error or whether the potatoes from the two States sold at exactly the same price. In such a situation the insertion of "and" is advised. Example: "PEWAB COLORADO PEGAD ANT IDAHO PEGEF VAVED." Similarly, when square bushel crates and 7/8 bushel hampers of cucumbers, for example, sell at the same price, insert "and" between the containers, as: "FLORIDA WIFAC AND WIKAC VUKAC." "And" is not usually called for when several varieties, which ordinarily sell at about the same figure, follow each other before one price, but it should be used more frequently than at present between different States, containers, grades and sizes, selling at exactly the same price. Do not group quotations under one price, however, unless the entire price range applies to all the stock listed.

8b. STOPPED SHIPPING GRAPES ON BASIS OF MARKET REPORTS.

That the daily market reports are of benefit in more ways than one is shown by the following letter, recently received by C. E. Schultz, at the time he closed the Fresno field station:

"I note that you plan to close the Fresno office at the end of this week. I wish to thank you for the daily bulletin or market report of grape shipments. It has been of great value and service to the writer; it has enabled me to note the slump in the eastern auction market on the Atlantic Coast, from one end to the other. Undoubtedly, it saved me many hundreds of dollars in enabling me to stop gathering my crop for at least a month during the low prices. From the time that I noticed the slump, I had a number of cars rolling to the East, which caught me for a little over a hundred dollars; others, I noticed, were caught for thousands of dollars. The bulletin has been of great value to us shippers, and I sincerely trust that you continue it from season to season. Thanking you very much for the service rendered, I remain, etc."

Commenting on this letter, Mr. Schultz said: "The California grape deal was not very successful this year, but I know of several shippers who quit shipping as a direct result of our information. If they also had crowded their supplies onto the already glutted markets, the result might have been worse than it was."

9b. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR NOVEMBER 13:

Page 309 - Winter Lettuce Prospects. (weekly review)
310 - California Grape Movement Still Active, - by C. E. Schultz.
312 - Virginia Tomato Association Developed Rapidly.
320 - British Apple Market Glutted.

E. W. STILLWELL,
Specialist in Market News.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

Station	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably will close
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	A. E. Prugh Mrs. L.B.Gerry	Apples	Aug. 23	Mar. 31
ROCHESTER, N. Y.** 419 Triangle Bldg.	837	R. L. Sutton	Apples	Sept. 10	May 28
			Cabbage	Sept. 10	Mar. 12
			Celery	Sept. 13	Jan. 22
			Carrots	Sept. 14	Apr. 15
			Lettuce*	Sept. 14	Oct. 2*
			Pears*	Sept. 15	Nov. 10*
			Onions	Sept. 20	Apr. 15
			Peaches*	Sept. 23	Oct. 21*
			Potatoes	Oct. 4	May 28
			Grapes*	Oct. 4	Nov. 20*
WAUPACA, WIS.** Court House	894	G. D. Clark	Potatoes	Sept. 14	Apr. 2
PRESQUE ISLE, ME. Graves Hardware Block	842	H. E. Rutland	Potatoes	Sept. 15	Mar. 31
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.** 29 Norris Bldg.	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Apples*	Oct. 29	Nov. 18*
			Pears*	Oct. 29	Nov. 5*
			Potatoes	Oct. 29	June 1
			Onions	Oct. 29	Apr. 1
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO 230 Federal Bldg.	845	Wendell Calhoun	Potatoes	Nov. 2	Apr. 15
ORLANDO, FLA.** Old Clinic Bldg. MAIL: P.O. Box 188	920	W. H. Hall	CitrusFrt.	Nov. 8	Apr. 15

The following station closed on date indicated:

MARTINSBURG, W. VA. Berkeley Hotel	835	E. R. Biddle	Apples	Sept. 23	Nov. 13

** State cooperating. *Reports discontinued.

E. R. Biddle returned to Philadelphia office.
H. F. Willson temporarily in Washington office.

LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES should keep Washington advised as to changes in dates.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. A SUGGESTION FOR LOADING POTATOES DURING WINTER MONTHS.

The following suggestion, taken from a letter issued by O. N. Harsha to the inspectors in Maine, contains a very practical suggestion. While it is not the function of the Food Products Inspector to instruct shippers as to loading methods, a suggestion of this kind can properly be made when opportunity is offered:

"There are a lot of ways an inspector can make himself valuable to shippers besides just inspecting his cars of potatoes. For instance: Recommend loading all cars with the bottom sacks upright, sewed or ear-ends down, leaving as much space as possible next to each side-wall; then, if the potatoes next the floor get frozen in transit, about all that is usually necessary is to cut the strings, remove the damaged potatoes and replace them with sound ones; in that way a big re-racking labor bill is often eliminated at the other end."

2c. READ MEMORANDUM 63 CAREFULLY.

Advice has been received that some men have the idea that they should mention on the certificate the presence of spray residue in the stem-end of the apple, if it is too heavy to pass the export requirements, although it may be cleaned as well as can be expected with commercial wiping machines. Careful reading of Memorandum 63 will reveal that the only cases where spray residue should be mentioned on certificates are those which show spray residue on the surface of the apples and where it is apparent that no effort has been made to clean the fruit.

3c. MR. HARSHA REPORTS ON DECAY OF MAINE POTATOES:

The following comments by O. N. Harsha on decay of Maine potatoes indicate a somewhat different opinion than expressed by H. E. Rutland in Par. 1b of the last Division Letter:

"My observations and those of other inspectors and numerous local shippers indicate that considerable rot has developed in the various potato houses all the way from Van Buren and Fort Kent down to Patton and Dover-Foxcroft. This has been caused to some extent by freezing injury but, since most of it is Late Blight, my opinion is that it is due chiefly to the fact that large quantities of potatoes were stored wet, followed by an unusually warm fall. I know of a few houses that were actually steaming until the cold snap of last week. It is quite possible that a lot of shippers do not realize that they have rot in their bins at this time, just as the apple shippers in New York State last year swore that they had no scab on their apples in common storage until they were examined by themselves or by one of our inspectors."

"EUROPEAN APPLE CONSUMPTION INCREASING"is the title of Report F.S.:A-78, written by Edwin Smith and distributed by the Foreign Marketing Section today. Mr. Smith tells of his findings from a recent trip on the Continent.

INSPECTIONS FOR THE NAVY AND MARINE CORPS DURING OCTOBER, 1926

SYMBOLS:- N - Navy M - Marine Corps	ALL FIGURES IN THESE COLUMNS REPRESENT POUNDS						"Cuts" Made to Comply with Specifications		Items Billed Short-weight	
	Fruits and Vegetables PASSED		Fruits and Vegetables REJECTED		TOTAL QUANTITY INSPECTED					
Stations	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M
BOSTON	262392	3928	1170	0	263562	3923	320	0	0	0
NEW YORK	179933	89759	10476	320	190409	90079	0	36	0	0
NORFOLK	796737	0	39832	0	836569	0	0	0	0	0
PHILADELPHIA	219072	30746	1885	30	220957	30776	1396	72	0	0
SAN DIEGO	848269	69568	40620	1679	888889	71247	0	154	0	0
SAN FRANCISCO	273282	0	17500	0	290782	0	0	0	0	0
SAN PEDRO	653613	0	6167	0	659780	0	68	0	0	0
VALLEJO	139713	26884	8660	5485	148373	32369	127	91	0	0
WASHINGTON	21932	0	410	0	22342	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	3394943	220885	126720	7514	3521663	228399	1911	353	0	0
INSPECTIONS MADE FOR U.S. SHIPPING BOARD										
NEW YORK	33172		0		33172		0		0	
NORFOLK	32973		0		32973		0		0	
TOTAL	66145		0		66145		0		0	

The New York office also inspected the following:	Fruits	Vegetables	Rejections
United States Lines	114974	304996	7214
American France Line	3142	18194	--
Munson Line	13769	56428	574
American Diamond Line	2250	11987	--
American Merchant Line	8959	21779	1203
American African Line	2755	11204	629
TOTALS:	145849	424588	9620

In addition to the above, the Norfolk office inspected the following for the Navy: 32817 lbs. bread, fish, meat, meat products and butter.

In addition to the above, the Vallejo office inspected and passed the following for the Navy: 24735 lbs. bread amd 125 lbs. rolls.

In addition to the above, the San Pedro office inspected the following:

	Passed	Rejected
Bread	7112	0
Butter	6995	0
Cheese	1477	67
TOTALS:	15584	67

4c. NOTES FROM CALIFORNIA:

From the November 12 issue of California Inspectors' Notes the following interesting items have been culled:-

-Fresno district inspections from June 6 to November 10 totaled 7,808 cars, compared with 9,859 last season and 3,580 in 1924. About 80 men had their headquarters at Fresno during the present season.

-In the Ontario district, 1,986 cars were inspected, or 95% of the total shipments. Low prices and poor quality caused much tonnage of grapes to go to the wineries and the drying trays, thereby preventing inspections from reaching last year's total of 2,487 cars.

-A report from Modesto indicated that inspections of Turlock cantaloupes and of the season's grape shipments in that territory would total at least 5,976 cars, as against 6,032 last year. Additional inspections may have been made after the date of the report, November 10.

5c. INSPECTION OF EXPORT SHIPMENTS AT SAN FRANCISCO.

F. A. Powell wrote from San Francisco on November 4:- "We have had inspections of potatoes for Mexico, onions for Australia and New Zealand, grapes for the Dutch East Indies, and artichokes and sprouts for Chicago. (The editor does not know in which foreign country Chicago is located.) Inspection also was made of a few lots of apples destined to Batavia, and 2,000 cans of treated pears for London. The onions and potatoes for export are all sorted and packed on the pier, so that there is very little trouble in making U.S. No. 1 grade."

6c. "POTATO SPECIAL" ON THE ERIE RAILROAD.

In an effort to improve the market quality of potatoes, a demonstration train is being conducted over the Erie Railroad through New York counties from November 8 to 23. The train is being run through the cooperation of the New York State College of Agriculture, local farm bureaus, the Department of Farms and Markets, the State School of Agriculture, and local business men's organizations which have the aid of the railroad.

Counties to be included in the tour are Steuben, Allegheny, Wyoming, Livingston and Genesee. The schedule arranges for 15 stops on 13 days, and consists of a morning and an afternoon program each day. Junior club members will bring their potatoes to the train to be judged and exhibited during the mornings. Demonstrations for blight treatment, treatment for scab, and discussions of the common diseases and parasites will be given.

Discussions on the necessity for standardization, efficient use of fertilizers, and care in selection of seed will take up the afternoon sessions. Our Rochester office furnishes a number of the vegetable market reports for this "Potato Special" each afternoon, and these mimeographed sheets are given to interested persons who visit the train.

7c. REVISED GRADES BEING DISTRIBUTED:

With this D.L., each inspector will receive a copy of the revised Federal grades for Bunched Beets, Bunched Carrots, Bunched Turnips, and for Head Lettuce.

8c. WATSONVILLE EXCELS IN PRODUCTION OF DRIED APPLES.

The Watsonville district of California produces one half of the total dried-apple output of the United States, New York being the only close competitor. About 40% of the Watsonville crop is handled by driers; the Bellflower is especially suitable for this purpose. To October 1, about 500,000 boxes had been evaporated. The drying ratio is about 7 to 1, according to an item published in California Inspectors' Notes.

9c. IDAHO HAS RECORD MONTH.

During the month of October, 3,471 certificates were issued by the Cooperative Inspection Service in Idaho. This is a record month for the service in that State since it was established several years ago. Of these certificates 2,336 were issued on potatoes. During the period July 1 to October 31, Idaho wrote 7,291 certificates. (-from Washington State Inspection Letter, Nov. 9)

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

OFFICE NOTES:

The annual meeting of the National Association of Marketing Officials will be held in the Congress Hotel, Chicago, from November 29 to December 1. At present, Mr. Sherman and Mr. Stillwell are planning to attend this gathering. J. A. Hunter, of our San Antonio office, is chairman of the Committee on Sales and Consignments, and is expected to make the report for that committee on November 30.

On Saturday, November 27, R. C. Butner, of the Chicago staff, will serve as a judge of potatoes, to be exhibited by the members attending the Fifth National Boys and Girls Club Congress. The potato exhibits will be housed in the Boys and Girls Club building on the grounds of the International Livestock Exposition, Chicago. This work is sponsored by the State Agricultural Colleges.

Mr. Boree is expected back at his desk in Washington next Monday. After conferring with Chicago representatives of the News Service on Monday and Tuesday, he went to offices at Grand Rapids, Detroit and Cleveland.

At the request of G. H. Hecke, Director of the California Dept. of Agriculture, and Charles Virden, acting in behalf of interested shippers, C. E. Schultz has been assigned for a few weeks to work with and furnish information to the shippers' committee and the State Dept. of Agriculture, which will aid in perfecting details of the "clearing house plan" for marketing California perishables. He will keep Washington fully informed of developments, in order that the committee may be advised of the extent to which the Bureau may be able to cooperate with them in this widely-discussed plan.

Immediately after Thanksgiving, Mr. Hunter, of the San Antonio office, will go to New Orleans, to discuss radio reports with B. B. Jones there and with Navy officers at Algiers. He then proceeds to Chicago.

OFFICE NOTES(CONTINUED):

J. G. Cross changed his plans, and will not visit railroad officials in Texas until after January 1. Yesterday he was at Savannah, Ga., and for the next few days will confer with officials in Florida. Starting about November 23, Mr. Cross will make a tour of the entire Seaboard Air Line in company with the Supt. of Transportation. It is understood that they will visit each of the Division Superintendents of this road in an effort to get the shipment reports on a more satisfactory basis. Mr. Cross will then go to Chicago and will return to Washington about December 2.

It is expected that J. J. Gardner will complete his supervision of Potomac Valley apple inspections about Thanksgiving Day, and will then return to his headquarters at Pittsburgh. F. S. Kinsey probably will continue his work at Charlottesville, Va., until about December 1.

C. D. Shirley will leave Chicago at the end of this week and return to his headquarters in the Chamber of Commerce Bldg., San Antonio, Texas. After arriving in San Antonio, he will take annual leave.

Robert Bier is spending a day or two on a trip to Dover, Del., where he addresses today an important meeting of the Peninsula Horticultural Society. He planned to discuss shipping-point inspection work at this meeting.

Both J. Wm. Park and Wm. E. Lewis returned to the Washington office on Monday of this week.

Because of the freeze which occurred in the Potomac Valley the middle of last week, shippers in that territory felt that they could dispense with the News Service on apples and Mr. Biddle closed the Martinsburg field station on Saturday, a week earlier than expected. He came to the Washington office on Monday and then returned to his headquarters in Philadelphia Tuesday.

H. F. Willson, who was substituting in Philadelphia a few weeks, came to Washington on Thursday morning, and will remain here possibly until the first of the year, to assist with the market news work.

E. E. Conklin, Jr., has returned from Fresno to his headquarters in the Sacramento office. He should be addressed in care of the State Dept. of Agriculture, Sacramento, until further notice.

K. R. Nutting has completed his supervision of grape inspections at Santa Rosa, and has now moved to Santa Maria, Calif., where he can be addressed: c/o General Delivery.

Mrs. Gladys Calderon is assisting with the work in Mr. Clay's stencil-cutting room in Washington.

THANKSGIVING DAY, Thursday, November 25, will be observed as a holiday in all offices. No Division Letter will be issued next week.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 7, NO. 48.
Dec. 3, 1926
(Contents Confidential)

NO DIVISION LETTER WAS ISSUED FOR NOV. 26

1a. LAST CALL FOR WEEKLY "CROPS AND MARKETS!"

The authorities have decided to discontinue the weekly issues of "Crops and Markets" after December 25. Beginning with 1927, the paper will be issued on a monthly basis only and will be mostly of a statistical nature. Therefore, if any member of the F. & V. staff has a special article or field story, which he desires to get into print, he should submit the material at once, so that it may be published in one of the December issues of the weekly paper. It is hoped that quite a number of men, particularly those in charge of field stations, will send in articles for use during December.

Mr. Froehlich, who has handled the fruit and vegetable articles for "Crops and Markets" in recent years, desires to THANK heartily everybody who contributed material for this paper. One of the greatest uses to which the special articles have been put is in the answering of letters from persons outside the Bureau. A vast amount of valuable material has been published during the past seven years, most of which appeared in no other form and much of which can never be duplicated. During 1920 and 1921, the paper was known as "The Market Reporter." During 1922 and 1923, the name was "Weather, Crops and Markets." Beginning with 1924, the name was changed to "Crops and Markets" and monthly statistical supplements have been published regularly since January, 1924.

In conclusion, please remember that considerable material will be needed between now and December 15, to fill our 3½ pages of space in the remaining weekly issues of "Crops and Markets."

COPIES OF THE D.L. FOR 1920 AND 1921:

The very first Division Letter was issued on April 1, 1920. Volume 1 was concluded with that calendar year. Volume 2 covered the entire year 1921. About 10 copies of each Letter are kept on file for future emergencies. This complete file of more than 3,000 Division Letters is taking too much space in the Washington office, and it is necessary to discard all extra copies published during the first two years, 1920 and 1921. Before destroying these earliest Letters, however, each office is asked to examine its permanent file and to advise Washington at once if copies for either 1920 or 1921 are desired to complete the file. PLEASE LET US HEAR FROM YOU WITHOUT DELAY.

2a. ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPLEMENT.

Market News men should bind their copy of the Administrative Supplement with the Market News Handbook and inspectors should bind their copy with the Inspectors' Handbook. The two together constitute the Project Handbook, which outlines the procedure to be followed.

This matter is called to your attention at this time for the reason that every now and then it appears that someone overlooks a procedure clearly stated in the Administrative Supplement or that he has mislaid his copy.

3a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR NOVEMBER 20:

Page 325 - Cabbage Closes Higher; Potatoes Lower. (weekly review)
326 - Developments of Idaho Potato Season, - by Wendell Calhoun.
328 - Land Development in South Texas, - by J. A. Hunter.
- British Columbia Fruit Growers Organized.
- Smaller Shipments of Porto Rican Grapefruit Expected.
- Storage Holdings of New York Celery, - by W. H. Stanton.
- The British Apple Market, November 10.
- Georgia Peach Marketing Problems.
- Melon Association Changes Form of Contract.
336 - The Mediterranean Olive Prospects.
French Prune Crop Lower.

4a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR NOVEMBER 27:

Page 341 - Markets Dull after Thanksgiving. (weekly review)
342 - Florida Citrus Situation, - by W. H. Hall.
- Cincinnati grape market. (filler)
343 - Citrus juice extractor for home use. (filler)
- Better Methods of Handling Colorado Potatoes.
- Fewer Apples Handled by Spokane Valley Growers.
- Texas Citrus Exchange to Ship Quality Fruit.
- Many Apples Dried in California.
- Oregon cauliflower shipments. (filler)
352 - British Apple Market.

5a. NOVEMBER SUPPLEMENT TO "CROPS AND MARKETS."

The November Supplement to "Crops and Markets" came from the Printing Office on December 2. Copies doubtless have reached all offices by this time.

6a. DECEMBER CROP REPORT DELAYED.

The final crop estimates for this year will not be released on Saturday, December 18, as originally scheduled, but will be deferred until 4 P.M. on Monday, December 20.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. TENDENCY TOWARD SMALLER SACKS FOR POTATOES AND TURNIPS.

W. H. Stanton, of the New York office, submitted the following:-

There has been a distinct tendency in recent years toward smaller-sized sacks for potatoes and turnips in large terminal markets. Not so many years ago, the 165-pound sack was the common package for potatoes, and even 180-pound sacks were used at times. It is also true that larger sacks than the present 140-pound sack for turnips were in evidence some years ago. Of course, at the present time the most prevalent sack for late potatoes is the 150-pound sack. During the last three or four years the demand in terminal markets for smaller-sized sacks has been particularly noticeable. Although this demand has not yet reached sufficient strength to effect a material change in originating shipments, it seems reasonable to expect that the time is not so far distant when smaller-sized sacks will predominate for both turnips and potatoes.

Although large receivers, generally speaking, are apathetic so far as the size of sacks is concerned, they are being forced to resack a large portion of their receipts of turnips and potatoes and, eventually, this may be done at shipping points.

Undoubtedly the greatest factor in bringing about this demand is the large chain-store organizations, which take into consideration the requests of managers and employees of individual stores. The greater convenience in handling smaller containers, such as the 100-pound sack and the 120-pound sack, will be denied by no one and these chain-store requirements can not be termed unreasonable.

A recent sale of potatoes on the part of one of the largest eastern chain-stores was made in 120-pound sacks. Another large chain-store organization within the New York territory also recently conducted a sale of potatoes in 100-pound sacks.

When making prices to the chain stores and those who wish the similar-sized sacks, the receivers include the cost of sacking in the selling price. A large receiver in New York recently stated that, in his opinion, approximately 50% of the turnips now being sold in New York City are disposed of in 100-pound sacks. As yet the percentage of potatoes in sacks smaller than the 150-pound size is not nearly as high.

Most of those conversant with the handling of potatoes in eastern markets are aware, of course, that Boston disposes of practically all main-crop potatoes in sacks of 100-pounds, which are packed locally. It is my understanding that most of the New England points prefer their potatoes in 120-pound sacks, and a great deal of the Long Island stock is shipped to these markets in that package.

In connection with this tendency, it is of interest to observe that the peddler trade and a certain percentage of the old jobbing trade insists on the old types of package and the old methods of sale. Many of these dealers would not think of purchasing their turnips in anything but 140-pound sacks, nor would they consider buying their potatoes on any other basis than bulk per 180-pounds or in 150-pound sacks.

2b. "HOUSEWIVES' MARKET BASKET" IN CHICAGO.

In addition to the daily market reports, prepared by our Chicago office and broadcast by Stations KYW and WLS, R. E. Corbin, of the Chicago staff, has been preparing for Station WLS (Sears-Roebuck Foundation) a weekly story on fruits and vegetables, called the "Housewives' Market Basket." Mrs. Dickey, the home economics expert, who does the actual broadcasting of this story, reports that she has a large, appreciative audience, which looks forward to this weekly feature, and she compliments the Chicago office on the human interest put into these "Housewives' Market Basket" talks. As a sample of the subjects covered, on September 24 Mr. Corbin wrote on the Sweet Potato and on November 20 his subject was Cranberries. The last talk was particularly appropriate to the Thanksgiving season.

3b. GRAPE MARKET REPORTS DISCONTINUED.

The mimeographed market reports on Grapes were discontinued in the Washington office on November 20.

4b. REPORTS ON FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS:

The following additional reports have been issued by the Foreign Marketing Section during the past two weeks:-F.S.:A-77, F.S.:A-80, F.S.:A-81, and F.S.:A-82, "The British Apple Market." F.S.:A-78, "European Apple Consumption Increasing. F.S.:P-21, "French Prune Crop Lower." F.S.:A-83, "Notes on American Apples in South Africa and New Zealand."

5b. GRADES FOR IDAHO POTATOES:

With further reference to Par. 3b. in the Division Letter for November 12, Wendell Calhoun has written from Idaho Falls as follows:-

"Beginning January 1, all potatoes shipped out of Idaho must have the grade marked on the sack, the grades being U.S. No. 1, U.S. No.2, and Idaho Culls. The State commercial or combination grade is to be discontinued."

B. C. BOREE,
Marketing Specialist.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. MONTHLY REPORTS TO INCLUDE NAMES OF INSPECTORS IN EACH MARKET.

On a number of different occasions recently, it has been desirable to determine just what inspectors were working in certain offices at a definite time in the past. It has required a considerable amount of work to determine this and, in order to have such records convenient for furture reference, it is suggested that the monthly report from each office give, under Remarks, the names of inspectors who have worked in that office during the month. If space is not sufficient for such record, it may be continued on the back of the page. If an inspector has worked in the office for only a part of the month, the exact time should be shown.

1½c. WARSAW OFFICE CLOSES THIS WEEK .

F. M. Lyle is closing the shipping-point service at Warsaw, Ind., this week. Several licensees will continue this work under Mr. Lyle's supervision from the Chicago office. Inquiries regarding certificates should be addressed to him at Chicago.

2c. CHARGES FOR PEANUT INSPECTIONS WHEN SAMPLES DELIVERED BY APPLICANT.

The present charges for inspection of peanuts are based on the supposition that the inspector selects the samples. In some of our southern offices, samples are mailed to the inspector in order to determine whether the defects come within the grade tolerance. It requires only about half as much time to make these inspections as it does to collect the samples and make the analysis. The regular carload fees, therefore, should not be charged on such inspections, but the hourly rate, as provided under Regulation 10, Par. 2, should be applied.

A similar basis should be used in determining the proper fee for certification of small lots of any product brought to the office of the inspector or mailed to him. See Par. 125, Part 1, Receiving-Point Handbook.

3c. SHOWING SIZE AND COLOR OF BARRELED APPLES INSPECTED FOR EXPORT.

In order to make more definite the instructions in Par. 4c of the Division Letter for November 12, it is requested that the certificates on barreled apples for export show a range of size and color in the same way as is shown on the shipping-point certificates covering barreled apples. The following statement is sufficient: "Size 2 1/4 to 3 1/2, mostly 2 1/2 to 2 3/4, color 15 to 75% good color, mostly 25 to 50%." It is believed that a statement of this kind is necessary, in order to give an adequate picture of such lots. Peculiar conditions may arise, when it is necessary to modify somewhat these forms of statement. The District Supervisor or the Washington office should be consulted in such cases.

4c. LOOK OUT FOR INCORRECT NUMBERING OF CERTIFICATE COPIES.

My attention has been called to one case, where certificate copies were not numbered to correspond with the originals with which they were bound. It is not likely that many mistakes are made in binding, but all offices are requested to check numbers carefully before certificates are mailed out.

5c. NO. 41 ASSIGNED TO TRENTON.

Mr. Lynn, who is employed cooperatively with New Jersey, will make receiving-point inspections in Trenton. No. 41 has been assigned to this office and will be used for marking cars inspected there.

6c. REFER TO WASHINGTON ANY LETTERS ABOUT GENERAL DEPARTMENTAL POLICIES.

It is not expected that all field men will be familiar with the policies of the Department in handling various matters about which inquiries are frequently received. In the interest of uniformity and harmony, it is necessary that such matters be handled through the Washington office. All letters, therefore, containing questions regarding general policies of the Inspection Service or other work done by the Department, should be referred to Washington for reply. This also applies to any circular letter, sent out regarding the work of the Inspection Service in the hope of increasing the number of inspections made in any office.

7c. CHARLOTTE OFFICE CLOSED.

On account of the small amount of work requested in Charlotte and vicinity, the office there was closed on November 30. Bolling Hall (in charge) will take a month's leave without pay, before beginning his next assignment.

8c. COURT MAKES BUYER ACCEPT "U. S. GRADE No. 1" ONIONS.

A New Orleans firm was recently forced to make good on their contract to take three cars of U.S. Grade No.1 onions at $2.75 per cwt.,"sold track Ohio subject to drafts, written orders attached," according to an article in The Packer for October 29 and reprinted in California Inspectors' Notes.

The New Orleans house contended that they had bought "U.S. Grade No.1 onions, sound and suitable for export," and that, when the onions arrived in New Orleans, they were not U. S. No.1 and had to be reconditioned before they were exported. The transaction involved brokers and other complications, but resulted in a loss to the Ohio shipping firm of $1373.61.

The court ruled that, under the terms of the contract, the sale was concluded when the Ohio shippers had loaded the onions into the cars under Government inspection certificate, showing they were U. S. Grade No.1 when shipped. The shipper's responsibility ended here, according to the court, and if the onions did not arrive "suitable for export," the receiver must assume the loss without any right to reject them after inspection on arrival. The Ohio shipper, therefore, was granted judgment against the New Orleans firm for the difference between what had been paid and the original contract price of the onions, plus interest and costs.

This is an interesting case, since it further supports the Supreme Court decision regarding the responsibility of shippers and buyers in such transactions.—(California Editor's Note: This is another excellent illustration of the important part which shipping-point certificates may play in securing just settlements of f.o.b. contracts. The Packer article does not imply that the shipments were Government re-inspected or reversed as to grade upon arrival. Probably the reconditioning was occasioned by decay rather than by any inherent defects of grade.)

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

TEMPORARY HEADQUARTERS OF SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION WORK

State	Supervisor	Products	Approximate date of Opening	Approximate date of Closing
VIRGINIA:	F. S. Kinsey, 1030 State Office Bldg. Richmond, Va.	Peaches*	Sept. 1	Sept. 20*
		Apples	Sept. 7	Dec. 9
NEW YORK:	A. E. Mercker, 415 Triangle Bldg. Rochester, N. Y.	Apples	Sept. 20	May 1
		Onions	Sept. 20	Apr. 1
		Pears	Sept. 20	Dec. 31
		Peaches*	Sept. 20	Oct. 15*
		Potatoes	Sept. 20	May 1
		Grapes*	Sept. 20	Nov. 30*
		Cabbage	Sept. 20	Apr. 1
MAINE:	O. N. Harsha, Caribou, Maine.	Potatoes	Sept. 20	Apr. 15
FLORIDA:	O. G. Strauss, P. O. Box 188, Orlando, Fla.	CitrusFrt.	Oct. 5	Apr. 15

The following stations closed about final date indicated:

INDIANA:	F. M. Lyle, Warsaw, Ind.	Onions	Sept. 7	Dec. 4
PENNSYLVANIA:	D. M. James, Chambersburg, Pa.	Peaches	Aug. 23	Sept. 20
		Apples	Sept. 1	Nov. 20
WEST VIRGINIA: W. Maryland:	J. J. Gardner, Martinsburg, W. Va.	Peaches	Sept. 1	Sept. 20
		Apples	Sept. 7	Nov. 23

*Inspection completed on products marked with a star.

F. M. Lyle now in Chicago office.
D. M. James now in Harrisburg office.
J. J. Gardner returned to Pittsburgh office.

HUGE SWEET POTATOES!

A grower at Turlock, Calif., is reported to have produced two Nancy Hall sweet potatoes, weighing 24 and 25 pounds respectively. Measuring over a foot in diameter, these freaks are said to have been solid and of fairly good texture, but they showed growth cracks. (from California Inspectors' Notes)

STANDARDIZATION AND RESEARCH

1d. HOW TO HANDLE STAINING OF NORTHERN-GROWN ONIONS.

Just previous to and during the harvesting of onions, many sections of Indiana and Ohio experienced a period of rainy weather which caused a large quantity of onions to be badly stained. Much of this stock was shipped early to meet market demands. As the weather conditions were such that the onions could not dry out, it was very difficult and often impossible to shuck off the outer stained scales. In many instances cars of badly-stained onions ran into trouble on the receiving markets and in some cases reinspections were requested on stock which had been previously inspected at shipping point.

The following interpretation of "damage by dirt" is given, in order to secure a more uniform interpretation of the onion grades:-

Onions should not be considered damaged unless they are appreciably stained. An appreciably-stained onion is one on which the staining is readily noticeable but the appearance of the onion is not seriously affected.

A badly-stained onion is one which has a dark discoloration, sometimes nearly black. The appearance of such an onion is seriously affected.

In regard to the amount of staining permitted in the U. S. No.1 grade, it is believed that, in a lot of yellow onions of which 20% are stained, not over 1/4 of this amount or 5% should be badly stained. In a lot of white onions of which 15% are stained, not over 1/3 of this amount or 5% should be badly stained. These percentages will serve as a guide to inspectors in determining whether a lot is in grade or out of grade on account of "damage by dirt" and shall be in addition to the 5% tolerance allowed for defects other than "damage by dirt."

2d. POTENTIAL MARKETS TO BE STUDIED.

It is believed that many of the smaller cities, which do not take car-lots or which take only a few carloads of various fruits and vegetables annually, are potential markets for effecting a wider distribution of heavy crops, such as Georgia peaches. Acting on this belief, it has been decided to send J. Wm. Park on a visit to dealers and other agencies in a considerable number of smaller cities throughout southeastern Pennsylvania. He will go first to York and Lancaster, and will then confer with State officials at Harrisburg before proceeding to various points as far north as Mt. Carmel and as far east as Easton. The investigation will seek to determine why these smaller markets do not take car-lots directly from shipping-points and whether or not there is a possibility of developing car-lot business. Mr. Park may be absent 10 days or two weeks.

3d. REVISED CITRUS GRADES DISTRIBUTED.

On November 24, a copy of the revised Federal grades for Citrus Fruit was mailed to each inspector.

H. W. SAMSON,
Specialist in Standardization.

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Sherman returned to his desk this morning, after attending the annual meeting of the National Association of Marketing Officials, in Chicago. Mr. Stillwell, who also attended this gathering, took some leave after the convention and will not be back until Saturday, December 4.

R. G. Hill expects to leave on Sunday for the peanut sections in southeastern States, - Georgia, Alabama, etc. During the next three weeks he will be making investigations as to the grading of peanuts and the application of the present Federal grades.

J. Wm. Park left yesterday for an investigational trip which will take him to southeastern Pennsylvania points the next two weeks.

After staying in Washington a few days, J. G. Cross has gone on a short trip in the interest of reports for the Dairy Products Division, He reached New York City this morning, and will go to New Haven, Conn.; Middletown, N.Y., and Philadelphia, Pa., before returning to Washington.

J.J. Gardner stopped at the Washington office the day before Thanksgiving, on his way back to Pittsburgh after having supervised the shipping-point inspection work in the vicinity of Martinsburg, W. Va.

V. D. Callanan, formerly a member of our Market News staff, also came to Washington from Martinsburg, where he has been representing the Federated Fruit and Vegetable Growers in the apple deal.

Robert Bier will leave on Tuesday for Atlantic City, N.J., where on Wednesday he will address a meeting of the New Jersey State Horticultural Society. Mr. Bier will discuss chiefly the tomato industry of New Jersey and competing States.

F. S. Kinsey, supervisor of Virginia shipping-point inspection work, should now be addressed in care of the Division of Markets, 1030 State Office Bldg., Richmond. He will remain in Virginia until December 9, and then will go to New York City to help with receiving-point inspections.

F. M. Lyle should now be addressed in care of the Chicago office of the Inspection Service. Add his name under Chicago on the address list.

T. R. Merrill, who was on the Chicago inspection staff, has been assigned to New Orleans and will help with the work there temporarily. Please add his name below that of G. W. Winfrey on the inspectors' address list.

C. D. Shirley drove by automobile from Chicago to San Antonio, Texas. After taking a few days' leave, he will begin shipping-point work on spinach in the Asherton district of south Texas about December 6.

Sam Preston, of the cooperative inspection staff in California, has changed his headquarters from Fresno to Los Angeles.

OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

Miss Mary Hall, of the Washington office, has the sympathy of her friends in the sudden death of her uncle, Mr. C. P. J. Mooney, who was managing editor of the Memphis "Commercial Appeal" for more than 20 years. Mr. Mooney died from an attack of apoplexy in his office on the morning of November 22. He had frequently visited in Washington.

A. S. Mason will reopen the Wichita office as soon as he takes his annual leave. He expects to proceed from New York City the end of this week and will spend part of his leave by taking the boat trip from New York to New Orleans, finishing the journey to Wichita by rail.

James H. Collins, who was on the F. & V. staff until 1919, was among visitors to the Washington office this week. He is associated with the Chilton Publishing Company, Philadelphia.

D. M. James should now be addressed at the Harrisburg office of the Inspection Service, instead of at Chambersburg, Pa.

H. A. Harris, of the Los Angeles office, will attend the beekeepers' convention to be held in that city December 9-11, and at one of the sessions will give a talk on market reports and markets. His remarks will be printed later in the"Western Honey Bee."

On the morning of November 20, the following telegram was received from Ray C. Bish, of the Cleveland office: - "Home caught fire from adjoining building about 1:30 this morning. About two-thirds loss. Family all saved. Necessary I remain off duty until matters are straightened around." We all regret Mr. Bish's misfortune in losing the house, which he had purchased in Cleveland Heights only a few years ago.

Miss Louise Holst and Lawrence Tate, of the Denver market news office, will take their annual leave successively during the month of December. A temporary clerk has been employed for the entire month.

R. R. Pailthorp plans to go to Rochester and other western New York points early next week, for conference with H. S. Duncan, A. E. Mercker and others interested in the grading and inspection of barreled apples.

There have been no changes in the temporary field stations of the Market News Service since the last list was published on page 586 of the D.L. for November 19. The list will not be printed again until changes or additions make publication necessary.

L. G. Schultz has submitted a correction of data printed on page 573 of the D.L. for November 12. The original office address for Fort Worth, Mr. Schultz advises, was Old Moore Building instead of First National Bank Building. He opened the inspection office in Fort Worth about the same time that the market news office was opened.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 7, NO. 49
Dec. 10, 1926
(Contents Confidential)

1a. FIELD AND MARKET STORIES STILL NEEDED!
KEEP 'EM COMING!

With reference to Par. 1a in the last Division Letter, mentioning the discontinuance of the weekly issues of "Crops and Markets" on December 25, all men outside of Washington should remember that we still have use for field stories and for special articles from city market men. Whenever anything unusual happens in your market or in your producing section, please let us have news of it at once. Keep the Washington office informed of the season's developments in various shipping districts. Though the weekly "Crops and Markets" will not be available for the distribution of this material, we desire the information for use in other ways. Some of the material will be reproduced in our Division Letter. Articles of general interest can be slightly revised in the Washington office for release as special stories for the press and for farm journals. The Press Service is a valuable medium of distribution for any material which should reach the public promptly. Occasionally, some of the articles you submit will be stenciled and be issued as supplements to the Division Letter, with the idea that men at market and field stations can duplicate them for further distribution in their own localities. SO, PLEASE KEEP THE STORIES COMING!

2a. OUR APOLOGIES TO NEW YORK STATE:

In Par. 8c of the D.L. for November 19, the statement was made, without qualification, that "the Watsonville district of California produces one-half of the total dried-apple output of the United States, New York being the only close competitor." The editor copied the item from California Inspectors' Notes, without verification.

W. F. Allewelt, of the Sacramento office, has written a letter of explanation to the effect that the statement was based on census figures relating to manufactures of the year 1919. In that year, the production of dried apples in California did exceed production in New York State, but carlot shipment statistics seem to give first place to New York in all subsequent years. It is realized that shipments do not necessarily indicate proportionate total production of any product, but the carlot figures are given below for what they are worth:

Carlot Shipments of Dried Apples, as Reported by Carriers

	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Arkansas	62	9	47	76	156	140
California	251	425	355	507	390	233
New York	432	842	870	608	869	838
Washington	10	12	26	30	51	67
TOTAL U.S.	829	1,324	1,393	1,296	1,595	1,338

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. WESTERN SPANISH-SEED ONIONS IN CHICAGO.

R. E. Corbin, of the Chicago staff, sent the following interesting report:

During the last week of November and the early part of December, there was a noticeable advance in jobbing prices of western and mid-western yellow onions on the Chicago market. Western yellows that had been selling for $1.60-$1.75 sacked per 100 pounds advanced to $1.75-$2, with most sales around $1.90. By December 4, these arrivals had advanced further to a range of $2-$2.25. Indiana and Michigan yellow varieties rose from $1.25-$1.50 to a range of $1.50-$1.75, later reaching $2.

At almost the same time, Spanish onions fell off about 20¢ a crate, or from $1.65-$1.75 down to $1.40-$1.60. This decline in the Spanish onion market was caused partly by the appearance on the street of a few carloads of Spanish-seed onions from New Mexico. These Spanish-seed onions appear well and are of high quality. They run somewhat larger in size than does the imported stock, being packed 32 and 50 to a crate, compared with 50 and 72 of the imported onions. They are not so well-colored, however, as the Spanish stock and far less care is exercised in sizing when they are packed.

Some dealers were afraid that the New Mexico onions, grown from Spanish seed, would not keep so well as the imported stock, and much of this domestic stock was crowded onto the market. Certain buyers, who ship out to smaller towns, insist upon having the imported onions. Others have taken the New Mexico stock at a slightly lower figure and have satisfied their out-of-town trade with them. More and more of the buyers have been forced to use the Spanish-seed onions, because their trade insisted on lower-priced stock. To meet this competition, the holders of imported onions had to reduce prices.

During the period that New Mexico onions have been on the Chicago market, they have shown no decline in condition. They kept better than was expected, and there seems to be no reason why they should not be on the market in competition with the imported Spanish Valencias. The shippers have copied the Spanish crate, and, if equal care had been used in packing, few buyers and fewer housewives would guess that they were not imported stock. The first difference that strikes the buyer is not the somewhat paler coloring of the onions nor the faulty sizing, - it is the crate. The slats used are slightly narrower than those on the crates from Spain; sometimes the space between slats is narrow and uneven, and often the nails are bent over when partly driven.

These minor details attract buyers' attention, and may have had something to do with the lower prices on Spanish onions, or Spanish-style pack, in the face of a rising market on other good stock. One Chicago dealer recently voiced the opinion that Spanish onions would be in demand at $2 a crate, if the Spanish-seed had not come on in the imitation crates. It is also of interest to note that Spanish-seed onions in 100-pound sacks usually bring a little more than other western yellow onions.

NOTE: Since this article was written, the Chicago market for Spanish onions strengthened slightly and fluctuations occur periodically.

2b. APPLE REPORTS APPRECIATED.

A large importing and exporting firm, located at Seattle, Wash., recently wrote the following letter to the Washington office:

"We greatly appreciate the daily information we have been receiving from the market report issued by the Apple Section of your Bureau and have found the information given on these reports, both those coming from Washington, D. C., and those coming from the branch office at Spokane, to be of very great importance to us in giving our foreign customers authentic information. Sometimes we give some of this information by cable and many times by letter and, if we should judge by the tremendous increase that we have had in our fruit business this season, we would say that our customers certainly have appreciated this information and have responded by giving us several times the amount of business that they did in past seasons."

3b. IDAHO POTATOES IN 20-POUND SACKS.

The following letter of December 3 was received from W. H. Stanton, of the New York office:

"The day before yesterday a car of Idaho potatoes was received here, consisting of about 2,100 twenty-pound sacks. This is the first time that I have ever seen or heard of potatoes being put in such a small sack. We had previously received several cars of Idaho potatoes packed specially in fifteen-pound cartons, but these cartons were put up expressly for sale to one of the large department stores.

"The potatoes in the twenty-pound sacks were the Russet Rural variety and, while they could not be termed fancy, they were nicely graded and made a very nice appearance. The car was reshipped from Chicago to a local firm that does no ordinarily handle potatoes. It was shipped on consignment and sold in a range of 60¢ to 75¢ per sack, which is about on a par with the selling price of Maine potatoes.

"While this package undoubtedly is a most convenient one for sales direct to retail stores, apparently the cost of putting up the potatoes and shipping them such a distance is hardly justified, when a comparison is made of the price received."

4b. DENVER REPORTS GIVEN PUBLICITY.

The Industrial Development Department of the Denver Chamber of Commerce publishes in printed form a "Monthly Digest of Business in Colorado and Denver." Colorado shipment reports and Denver unload figures, as furnished by our Denver office, appear on the front page of this magazine, with a brief explanatory statement. Since the newspaper merger in Denver, Mr. Scott advises he is receiving better cooperation of the press for publication of his complete Denver market report, etc.

HANDLING OF CORRESPONDENCE in the Washington office has its interesting phases, as well as its difficulties. About Christmas time each year, a lot of letters are received from students, who desire material of assistance in preparing a thesis. Among letters from growers, the most frequent question has been with regard to market outlets for sweet potatoes. Almost every question imaginable is asked at some time during the year.

5b. SHRINKAGE OF IDAHO POTATOES IN STORAGE.

The following report came from Wendell Calhoun, at Idaho Falls:

During most of November, Idaho experienced cloudy weather and light, drizzling rains, with temperatures seldom below freezing. Because of these unusually mild weather conditions, it was almost impossible to hold potato cellars down to the most favorable storage-temperatures. Much of the crop was of poor-keeping quality to begin with, due to immaturity, frost injury, and other kinds of decay, and the damp, mild weather will doubtless cause these troubles to develop more rapidly than they would normally. Reports are common from country buyers of heavy losses in many cellars, and now it is freely predicted that the commercial output will be materially reduced because of shrinkage in storage.

Some of the growers do not seem to realize the condition of their potatoes, as many of the cellars have not yet been touched. Others are working through their storage bins and removing the off-grade stock. Recent shipments from the State have contained a relatively high proportion of No. 2 potatoes and combination grades. When the market passed through a recent period of dullness, most of the demand was for this cheaper stock. In addition to whole potatoes, these lower grades sometimes include marketable pieces of potatoes, which have been "clipped off" as the stock goes over the sorting machine.

The price to growers for this No. 2 stock has been around 80¢ per 100 pounds, bulk outweight. By "bulk outweight" is meant the quantity of potatoes packed out of what the grower brings to the warehouse. Most of this stock is packed in new or recleaned bags by the dealers, just the same as the No. 1 grade. Idaho Russets have had a tendency to grow large and rough. They also show considerable second growth, and the heavy percentage of this kind of stock has developed the regular trade in No. 2's during the recent seasons of high prices. This grade also includes potatoes showing cuts and other mechanical injuries. Some fields will run as high as 35% to 50% of sound No. 2's, though others may not average over 10%. The principal market for this stock is in the South Central States.

Price of the combination grade is based on the relative percentage of No. 1's and No. 2's which a lot contains. This State grade will be discontinued on January 1, 1927, and it is quite unanimously agreed that its discontinuance will be a benefit to the Idaho potato industry. After the first of the year, everything that does not meet requirements of the U. S. No. 1 grade must be branded either U. S. No. 2 or Idaho Culls, as the case may be.

Continuing in his letter of November 29, Mr. Calhoun said:

"The market here has been dull as elsewhere, but it exhibits its customary nervousness. A week ago last Saturday, when Chicago came in with a 'better undertone,' there was a flurry on the local market and a 10¢ to 15¢ advance. By Monday, when nothing developed. it fell flat, and there has since been a feeling that what was meant was 'undertow,'-to pull under a few more with high-priced stuff on a slipping market. The 'undertone' was not altogether responsible, as there appeared to be an improved demand in Oklahoma that day, and it merely coincided with what some of the local shippers wanted to believe. But Chicago is THE barometer for this market, and is reflected here very quickly."

6b. REPORTS ON FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS:

The following additional mimeographed reports are now available:- F.S.:A-84, "The British Apple Market" Dec. 1. F.S.:P-22, "Latest Estimates on French Prune Crop." F.S.:P-23, "The Yugoslav Prune Crop." F.S.:F-39, "British and German Fruit Imports in October." F.S.:CF-34, "Hurricane Damage to Isle of Pines Grapefruit Groves." F.S.:N-11, "Persian Almond and Walnut Production."

7b. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR DECEMBER 4:

Page 357 - Late Onion Situation. (weekly review)
358 - California Grape Season Reviewed, - by C. E. Schultz.
- Small markets being studied. (filler)
359 - Western Grape Shipments Nearly Finished, - by C. E. Schultz.
360 - American Apples Advertised in Europe.
368 - The British Apple Market, Nov. 24.
- Index Numbers of Agricultural Exports, October.

8b. DAILY REPORTS STARTED ON SPINACH.

Beginning December 8, the Washington office is now issuing daily mimeographed reports on Spinach. The cooperative office at San Antonio, Texas, also started this service the same day, for benefit of Texas growers and shippers.

E. W. STILLWELL,- Specialist in Market News.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. BRUISING OF BARRELED APPLES.

Several complaints have been received regarding serious bruising of barreled apples, due to excessive pressure when heading the barrels.

In most barreled-apple sections, the apples this year had an unusually high water content at time of packing. This was due to excessive moisture during the latter part of the growing season. This not only made the apples bruise more easily but also caused the bruises in some cases to take on the watery appearance which is also found in freezing injury.

While a certain amount of bruising is necessary in order to obtain a tight pack, pressure which results in the breaking of the skin, and which causes large deep bruises below the two layers next the tail end of the barrel, is not necessary in the proper packing of apples. U.S. Grade No. 1 for barreled apples excludes bruises "except those incident to proper packing." Bruising because of excessive pressure, therefore, is a factor of grade and not of condition, as covered by the footnote at bottom of page 2 of the apple grades as given in Amendment No. 1 to Service and Regulatory Announcements No. 93.

In selecting samples, the two layers next the tail end or press end of the barrel should not be considered in judging bruising.

Bruising which is not excessive for barreled apples should not be mentioned in certification. If the bruising is excessive, it is a grade factor and should be so considered in appeal inspections.

2c. FLORIDA SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTIONS TO END OF NOVEMBER:

The following report was received from the Jacksonville office of inspections made at Florida shipping points November 16 - 30 under supervision of O. G. Strauss, whose headquarters are at Orlando:

	- FRUITS -					
	Grapefruit	Oranges	Mixed	Tangerines	Total	Grand Total
Brooksville.....	5	3	6	1	15	
Clermont.....	0	4	3	0	7	
DeLand.....	0	13	3	4	20	
Groveland.....	0	3	0	0	3	
Lakeland.....	5	5	5	0	15	
Leesburg.....	8	15	8	0	31	
Mount Dora.....	2	19	2	2	25	
Ocala.....	0	18	0	0	18	
Orlando.....	1	7	11	3	22	
*Palmetto.....	46	29	2	0	77	
Parrish.....	0	8	2	0	10	
Tavares.....	2	9	6	1	18	
*Terra Ceia.....	31	0	2	0	33	
Umatilla.....	3	9	3	3	18	
	103	142	53	14	312	
Reported to November 15.....	215	54	35	7	311	
TOTAL to Nov. 30:..	318	196	88	21	623	623
TOTAL to same date last season.....	144	120	20	1	285	

*Palmetto 1, Terra Ceia 3, inspected Nov. 15th, but copies not received until after Nov. 20th; added to above period instead.

	- VEGETABLES -		
	Beans	Total	
Palmetto.....	1	1	
Terra Ceia.....	3	3	
TOTAL to Nov. 30:..	4	4	4
			627

NOTE: No vegetables previously reported this season.
No vegetable inspections made to same date last season.

TOTAL inspections of fruits and vegetables to same time last year, 285

"ALL FLORIDA" is the title of a fine, 200-page book recently published by the Bureau of Immigration, Florida State Department of Agriculture, at Tallahassee. This is a large book, measuring 9 by 12 inches and 1/2 inch in thickness. It is arranged by counties and is richly illustrated with half-tone cuts. It is intended primarily as a guide to persons who are thinking of locating permanently in Florida. It is an expensive publication and, therefore, copies are given only to those who show actual need of the book.

TEMPORARY HEADQUARTERS OF SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION WORK

State	Supervisor	Products	Approximate date of Opening	Approximate date of Closing
NEW YORK:	A. E. Mercker, 415 Triangle Bldg., Rochester, N.Y.	Apples	Sept. 20	May 1
		Onions	Sept. 20	Apr. 1
		Pears	Sept. 20	Dec. 31
		Peaches*	Sept. 20	Oct. 15*
		Potatoes	Sept. 20	May 1
		Grapes*	Sept. 20	Nov. 30*
		Cabbage	Sept. 20	Apr. 1
MAINE:	O. N. Harsha, Caribou, Maine.	Potatoes	Sept. 20	Apr. 15
FLORIDA:	O. G. Strauss, P. O. Box 188, Orlando, Fla.	Citrus Frt.	Oct. 5	Apr. 15
TEXAS:	C. D. Shirley, Asherton, Texas	Spinach	Dec. 10	Feb. 1
The following station closed about date indicated:				
VIRGINIA:	F. S. Kinsey, 1030 State Office Bldg., Richmond, Va.	Peaches	Sept. 1	Sept. 20
		Apples	Sept. 7	Dec. 9

*Inspection completed on products marked with a star.

F. S. Kinsey to New York office.

3c. MANY INSPECTIONS IN STATE OF WASHINGTON.

According to an item in the Washington State Inspection Letter for November 23, issued at Yakima, 5,106 inspections were made in that State during September. Apples totaled about 3,489, potatoes 791, and pears 745.

During October, according to an item dated November 30, the Washington inspections numbered 8,781, compared with 7,053 for the same month last year. Apple inspections in October totaled 7,369, potatoes 1,153 and pears 219. This makes the total for four months (July to October) 16,195, or 3,369 more than during the same period last season.

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

OFFICE NOTES:

B. E. Shaffer went to Charlottesville the early part of this week to attend the meeting of the Virginia State Horticultural Society, and to confer with growers and other persons interested in fruits and vegetables.

S. N. Green, of the Cleveland inspection staff, is in Washington this week on annual leave. He is spending part of the time in the local office, compiling unload statistics relating to Cleveland.

T. R. Hall, of the St. Louis market news office, expects to start his annual leave about December 17. H. F. Willson will proceed from Washington on Monday, and substitute for Mr. Hall at St. Louis until the end of December.

Sympathy is extended Bryce Morris, of the Chicago market news office, in the death of his father, which occurred on Wednesday night. Mr. Morris is on leave until next Monday, in order to attend the funeral.

G. H. Hecke, Director of the California State Dept. of Agriculture, and Lee A. Strong, Ass't Director, were among visitors to the Washington F. & V. offices on Tuesday of this week.

About December 15, A. E. Prugh expects to leave Spokane, Wash., and proceed to Chicago, where he will be temporarily and from which point he will take annual leave during the last 10 days of the month. Shipping-point inspectors in the Northwest will continue the periodical checking of shippers' f.o.b. records, and Mrs. L. B. Gerry will continue to issue the apple market reports at the Spokane office.

On December 3, R. L. Ringer, of the Portland office, attended the Marketing School at Roseburg, and gave a talk on the interpretation of the Federal market reports. This School is conducted by the Extension Service of Oregon Agricultural College.

A recent report from E. E. Conklin, Jr., indicates that he is visiting shipping sections around Los Angeles and in the Imperial Valley of California this week. From December 10 to 20, he expects to be at Phoenix, Arizona, in connection with the lettuce-inspection work. He can be reached through the Arizona Industrial Congress, Phoenix.

F. S. Kinsey stopped at the Washington office today, en route to New York City, where he will assist temporarily with inspections.

V. D. Callanan, who was a member of our F. & V. staff until two years ago, has accepted a position as Washington representative of The Jos. Gentile Company, Cincinnati. Mr. Callanan has opened an office in the Star Building here, and will handle produce through Potomac Yards. Since leaving Government service, he has been in the employ of the Federated Fruit and Vegetable Growers, Inc., New York City.

OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

R. G. Hill, who is on a trip in the interest of peanut standardization, will go from Georgia to New Orleans next week, in order to confer with the head of the Southeastern Peanut Association, who is in New Orleans.

R. C. Butner, Regional Supervisor at Chicago, visited inspectors in Kansas City and St. Louis this week.

J. J. Gardner, of the Pittsburgh office, spent a couple of days in New York City last week, conferring with W. C. Hackleman and others regarding barreled apples for export trade. About the middle of next week, Mr. Gardner will go to Martinsburg, W. Va., and close the apple-inspection work in that territory. He will then be on annual leave the remainder of the year.

J. A. Marks, of the Pittsburgh staff, also will be on vacation the last 10 days of December. This leaves M. W. Baker temporarily in charge of Pittsburgh inspection service.

A. H. Polster, of Philadelphia, will go on leave the last two weeks of December. About January 1, he will report at the Houston office, where he will handle the receiving-point inspections for at least several months. H. T. Longino, now in charge at Houston, will go on shipping-point inspection duty in southern Texas after January 1. T. L. Kelly will remain in temporary charge of the work at Philadelphia, after Mr. Polster leaves next week.

H. V. DeMott, of the Washington office, has gone on vacation for the remainder of the year. He expects to be in the vicinity of Miami, Florida.

K. R. Nutting, cooperative inspector in California, should now be addressed c/o County Farm Advisor, at Hayward, Calif. Until recently, Mr. Nutting was in charge of shipping-point work at Santa Maria.

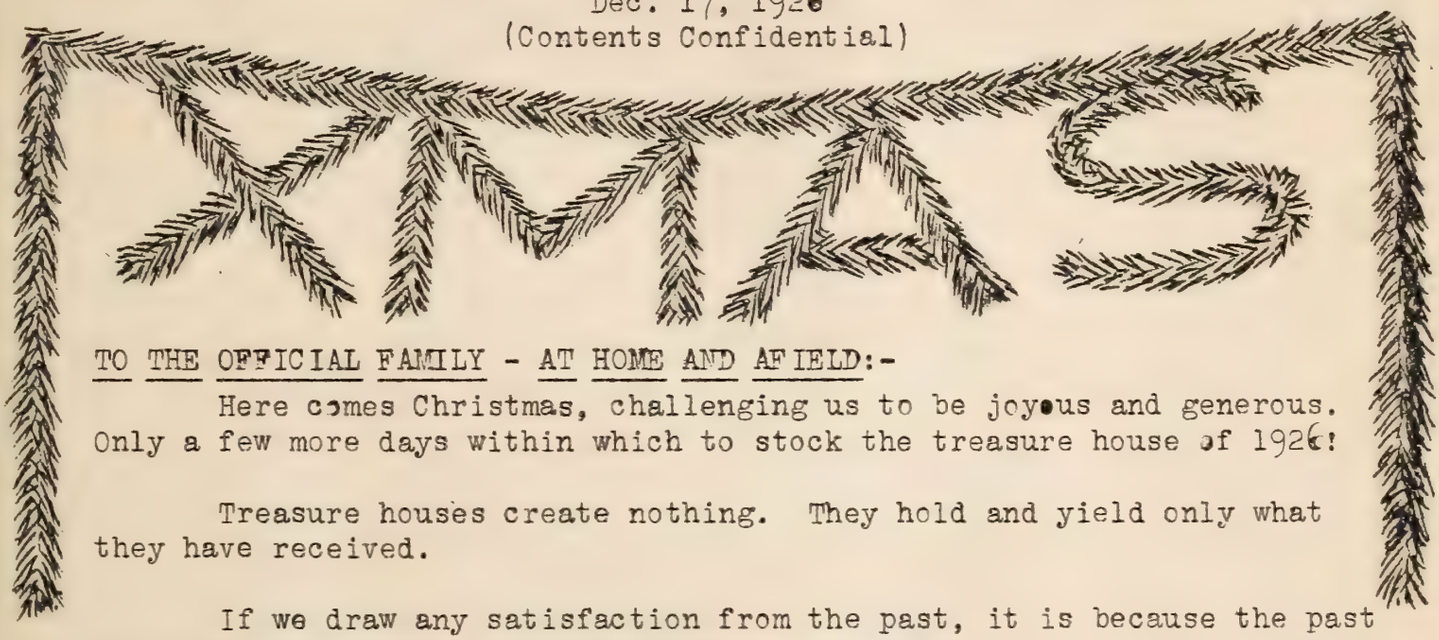
E. R. Biddle has sent a couple of amusing replies received during a recent circularization of the Philadelphia mailing lists. In answer to the question as to how long the service should be continued to the individual's address, one man wrote: "Please send until Gabriel blows his trumpet." One subscriber in a Pennsylvania town, - evidently a man of foreign birth, - wrote as follows: "I, sertanly aprisiadet daly reeport of the market you been sending to me, Gladly would continue daly reports for coming year. Cordialy yours,-"

The temporary residence address of Ray C. Bish, at Cleveland, is Suite 2, No. 1288 East 90th Street; phone Garfield 6731-MX.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 7, NO. 50
Dec. 17, 1926
(Contents Confidential)



TO THE OFFICIAL FAMILY - AT HOME AND AFIELD:-

Here comes Christmas, challenging us to be joyous and generous. Only a few more days within which to stock the treasure house of 1926!

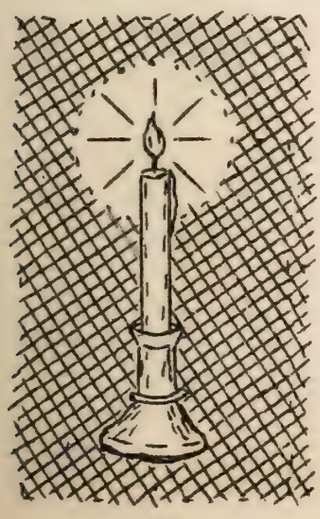
Treasure houses create nothing. They hold and yield only what they have received.

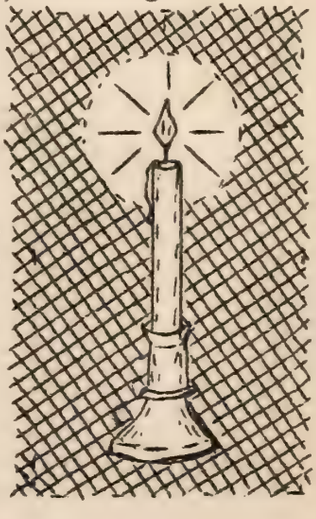
If we draw any satisfaction from the past, it is because the past holds something worth while which we have put into it.

To those who have lived thoughtlessly or selfishly, Christmas says: "Hurry up! This is your last chance to do anything toward evening the score."

To those who have made their daily jobs essential parts of lives devoted to human welfare, Christmas says: "Well done! Enter thou into the joys of the season!"

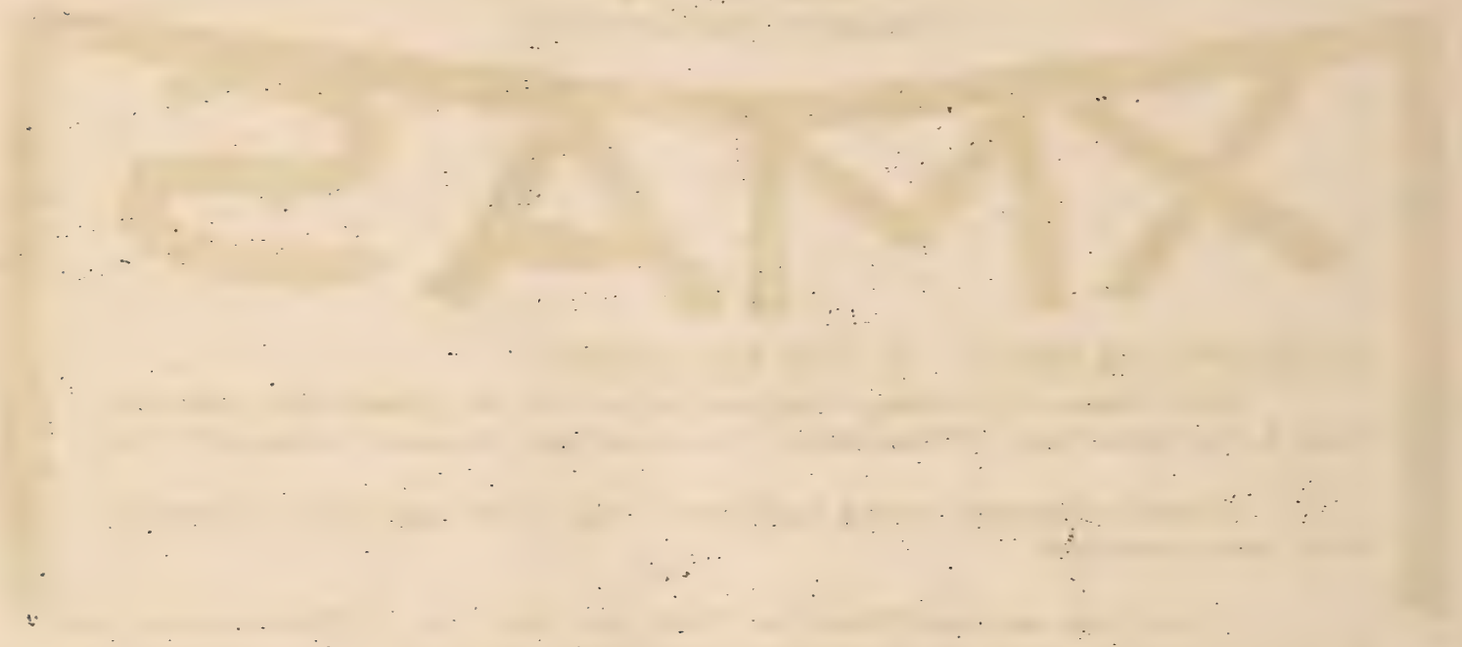
And close on the heels of Christmas comes the NEW YEAR, like a great storage warehouse with 365 compartments, having every degree of temperature and humidity necessary for the preservation of whatever of permanent value we may put into it. It comes to us empty, holding nothing but opportunity. It is ours to fill. Every position in the Fruit and Vegetable Division is a post of trust and usefulness. Each of us has an enviable opportunity every day to put something worth while into the storehouse. I am glad that this opportunity is so generally appreciated. If we can put more into 1927 than we have put into 1926, it will be what I wish for each of you - A HAPPY NEW YEAR.





Sincerely,

Wells A. Sherman



← The opposite page (No. 614) was purposely left blank in this D.L.

1a. GRADES OF EMPLOYEES MUST BE SHOWN ON FIELD PAYROLLS.

In accordance with P.B.A. Circular No. 51, published in the Official Record of December 8, the classification grades of employees must be shown on all field payrolls.

2a. CERTAIN LOCAL PURCHASES PROHIBITED.

We have just been advised that, according to a recent ruling of the Comptroller General, all inks and glues for use in Washington must now be obtained from the Government Printing Office, and those for use in the field must be obtained from the same source if more economical than when purchased from local dealers. This ruling is in accordance with P.B.A. Circular No. 45, mentioned in The B.A. E. News of October 12, 1926.

Inasmuch as both the mimeograph ink and writing ink secured from the Government Printing Office appear to be considerably cheaper than Government contract prices or local prices,- the price of mimeograph ink being but 60¢ per pound,-only the Government Printing Office inks hereafter will be furnished to field stations. Any local purchases of ink cannot be paid for under the above ruling except in cases of actual emergency.

The General Accounting Office also has made suspensions from vouchers passed by this Department, covering the local purchases of electric lightbulbs. Since bulbs are on the General Supply Schedule for delivery to any part of the United States and in view of the Comptroller General's action in this matter, bulbs hereafter must be requisitioned from Washington and not be purchased locally.

3a. IN"CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR DECEMBER 11:

Page 373 - Cabbage and Onion Prices Advance. (weekly review)
374 - Shrinkage of Idaho Potatoes in Storage, - by W. Calhoun.
- Western Spanish-Seed Onions in Chicago, - by R. E. Corbin.
376 - Big Year for California Citrus Growers.
- Smaller-Sized Sacks Apparently Desired, - by W. H. Stanton.
- Idaho Potatoes in 20-pound Sacks, - by W. H. Stanton.
384 - The Dried Fruit Situation.
- The British Apple Market, Dec. 1.

4a. MORE TRUCK-CROP ACREAGE IN LOUISIANA.

In a recent letter from Baton Rouge, C. R. Newton advises that the sugar-cane crop has been very disappointing to growers in Louisiana this year, and large acreages are being given over to truck crops in the hope of obtaining a source of income more sure than that from sugar cane.

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. PREPARE DECEMBER UNLOAD REPORTS AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE.

All offices are urged to tabulate and mimeograph their December unload records as soon after the close of the month as possible, and mail the usual copies to Washington. Similarly, stations which do not themselves mimeograph unload reports should mail Washington the M.S.-57 sheets at an early date. Complete unload summaries cannot be prepared until figures from all cities are received.

2b. OMIT UNNECESSARY WORDS FROM TELEGRAMS.

Often it is desirable to use seemingly unnecessary words in wires for the sake of clearness. This was brought out in Par. 7b of the D.L. for Nov. 19. At times, however, words appear that add nothing to the clearness of the reports and can well be omitted.

For example, in f.o.b. wires it is unnecessary to give the name of the town the report covers unless it is different from that at which the wire is filed, even when "GOBOT" is used. The day of the week can be omitted unless the report is sent after a holiday or on Sunday and there would be some question as to the day referred to. The name of the commodity can be omitted unless the same station reports on more than one product.

In both market and f.o.b. wires greater clearness, as well as more brevity, can often be secured by placing first the code words that apply to several quotations.

A number of reporters are occasionally inserting such phrases as "according to quality" or "according to quality and condition," after prices. These are understood without being given and can be omitted in most cases. If the phrase is added because the price range is unusually wide, it may be well to divide the range to cover different qualities or sizes, thus making the quotations more helpful.

3b. LATE BERRIES BEING MARKETED IN OREGON.

R. L. Ringer sent a newspaper clipping to the effect that a crate of Cuthbert raspberries was recently brought to Oregon City, from a farm four miles distant, and the berries found a ready sale at $3.00 per crate of 24 boxes. Commenting on the weather conditions, Mr. Ringer added:-

"I have some green berries on my bushes but they don't ripen fast in December, even in this balmy climate. We have flowers, too, in the garden. The marigolds have not stopped blooming for two years."

4b. ONIONS AND POTATOES IN WESTERN COLORADO.

Recent information from L. W. Brewer, inspector in charge of the shipping-point work around Delta, Colo., indicates that 600 or 700 cars of onions are yet to move from storages in that territory; also 300 to 400 cars of potatoes. Onions were coming out of storage for the holiday trade around $1.25 f.o.b.

5b. HANDLING WORK ON DECEMBER 24 AND DECEMBER 31:

All Washington employees who can be spared will be excused at 1 o'cloc on December 24, in accordance with Executive order. The usual hours probably will be observed on December 31.

The following program will prevail on December 24:

(a) No reports will be issued by any office.

(b) It will not be necessary to cover the market, as there usually is insufficient trading to establish satisfactory quotations.

(c) Shipments and f.o.b.'s will be sent over the leased wire, as usual, and should be copied and held available in market stations.

(d) Market stations relaying information to field stations will relay shipments and f.o.b.'s, as usual.

(e) Field station men need not file f.o.b. reports, unless special conditions seem to warrant a report.

Unless later advice is given to the contrary, the program of work on December 31 will be the same as on other days. Any local agreement to dispense with trading in cities or with shipping in producing sections should be reported promptly to Washington, in order that special instructions may be issued, if conditions justify.

E. W. STILLWELL,-Specialist in Market News.

INSPECTION SERVICE

½c. FINE McINTOSH APPLES FROM MONTANA.

The following paragraphs from a recent letter by Edward Dickey, Chief of the State Division of Horticulture, Missoula, show the high quality of apples produced in Montana this year and the excellent work which has been done in that State in grading and packing. Mr. Dickey made a tabulation of 208 cars which were inspected during September, October and November:

"The tabulation shows 79% of the total to be better than C grade and 77.4% to be Fancy or better, which is a wonderful showing. Every car of apples that went out of Montana during this period under Federal-State shipping-point inspection is included and the tabulation was made from the certificates. The prices being received for Montana McIntosh on the New York market this season will average as high, taking all sizes into consideration, as any western apples shipped to that market. When we take into consideration the fact that every box in the 208 cars was McIntosh, it certainly makes a remarkable record.

"Three things enter into the marketing of our McIntosh that make them command a high price: In the first place, they have quality which cannot be excelled. Secondly, the shippers have been very careful in grading their product, with the idea at all times of not only making the packed product conform to grade requirements but so much better that there will be no question as to its passing inspection. In the third place, all New York cars receive Federal-State shipping-point inspection, and the shippers know they must be up to grade requirements or they will not pass."

1c. LETTUCE SITUATION IN IMPERIAL VALLEY.

Writing from El Centro recently, Sam Preston said: "There seems to be plenty of lettuce for everyone, 30,000 acres being the most popular estimate of shippers. They believe that shipments will total at least 13,000 cars, compared with 11,000 last year from 27,000 acres. Shipments promise to be going strong by the middle of December, and it is estimated that more than 1,000 cars will move during this month."

In a wire of December 9 to the Sacramento office, Mr. Preston added: "Raining steadily 36 hours here - still raining. Bridges and roads on both routes to Los Angeles washed out. Brawley and El Centro streets completely under water in many places. Barbara Worth Hotel roof is three feet above sea level; so am still safe for a while. Boggy roads and damage to lettuce ready for harvest will slow down shipments considerably for a few days."

2c. TOMATO BLIGHT SERIOUS IN ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA.

Inspector H. G. Whitney reported in the California Inspectors' Notes of December 10 that the work on tomatoes in Orange County ended for the season on December 4, with 482 cars certified, representing 85 or 90% of the shipments. He added these remarks regarding the blight situation:

"The only draw-back of the tomato season was the late blight, and, though many shippers handled the situation successfully, a few lost money. One large firm had very good results by setting the stock back for a short time to determine whether blight would develop. They also turned down some patches known to be badly infested with the disease. Another shipper signed up some of these infested patches, and stood some heavy losses from the blight as a result." Tomato pin-worms were another less important difficulty encountered in the district this year.

Mr. Whitney studied the blight in the fields and packing houses and made some experiments to determine whether sound stock having an abrasion at the stem end would become infected in lugs or field boxes. Sound tomatoes which he thus inoculated with spores developed blight.

3c. SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTIONS IN UTAH.

Walter Kingsbury, of the Salt Lake City office, has been issuing occasionally a mimeographed Memorandum for Inspectors, which is distributed in the form of instructions to men working at shipping points in that State. Memorandum No. 5, dated December 11, includes a tabulation of inspections by months this season. The total to December 1 was 1,381 compared with 1,155 to the same time last year. Peaches, onions and potatoes show the largest number of inspections, among a dozen different products.

PLEASE NOTE: Copies of the printed annual report of the Chief of our Bureau are now available. This report covers the work of the fiscal year ended last June, and reviews all activities of the F. & V. Division as well as other divisions of the Bureau.

TEMPORARY HEADQUARTERS OF SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION WORK

State	Supervisor	Products	Approximate date of Opening	Approximate date of Closing
NEW YORK:	A. E. Mercker, 415 Triangle Bldg., Rochester, N. Y.	Apples	Sept. 20	May 1
		Onions	Sept. 20	Apr. 1
		Pears	Sept. 20	Dec. 31
		Peaches*	Sept. 20	Oct. 15*
		Potatoes	Sept. 20	May 1
		Grapes*	Sept. 20	Nov. 30*
		Cabbage	Sept. 20	Apr. 1
MAINE:	O. N. Harsha, Caribou, Maine	Potatoes	Sept. 20	Apr. 15
FLORIDA:	O. G. Strauss, P. O. Box 188, Orlando, Fla.	Citrus Frt	Oct. 5	Apr. 15
		Vegetables	Nov. 16	Apr. 15
TEXAS:	C. D. Shirley (until 12/27) H. T. Longino (after 12/27) Crystal City, Texas.	Spinach	Dec. 10	Feb. 1
	C. D. Shirley, Mercedes, Texas	Vegetables	Jan. 1	June 15

*Inspection completed on products marked with a star.

4c. A NEW APPLE SPOT IN STATE OF WASHINGTON.

In the December 7 Inspection Letter, issued by F. E. Bailey for the inspection staff in the State of Washington, there appeared the following item:

"Recently several cases have been reported of apples in storage showing numerous sunken or pitted areas over the surface, which are slightly darkened or, in some cases, have a scalded appearance somewhat resembling soft scald. No one is in a position at the present time to tell exactly what caused this type of injury, but there is a possibility that it is due to some solutions used in an attempt to remove a mixture of lead arsenate and summer oil-spray residue, which was on the fruit at harvest time. There is good reason to believe that this injury was not apparent at the time of packing and, until more is known of it, the injury will be considered a defect of condition, when found in storage lots."

5c. A. & P. STORES HANDLE 55,000 CARS.

At the recent Chicago convention of marketing officials, a representative of the A. & P. chain stores reviewed the business of the past two years and stated that 15,800 stores handled more than $60,000,000 worth of fruits and vegetables annually, or about 55,000 cars. He said that these stores require carefully-standardized products and conveniently-small packages.

6c. THE TOLERANCE FOR SOFT ROT OF POTATOES.

My attention has been called to uncertainty in themind of an inspector as to what is included in the term "soft rot." The definition of this term, as given in the revised potato grades, is very specific. Read it over, to refresh your mind on this point.

7c. NEW POCKET GRADE-BOOKS.

Our Grades and Standards Project has been devoting a good bit of time recently to putting the grades into a convenient form for our inspectors to carry in a pocket handbook. The photographic department has reduced these sheets in size and is preparing them by the regular photographic process. A new form of expansion binder has been purchased, which will not only keep these grade summaries in good shape but will also be convenient for the pocket. These covers are inventorial and will be sent out by our property division. About 15 sets of grades have been compiled and others are in course of preparation. These will be sent to receiving-point inspectors as soon as they are ready.

It is believed that these handbooks will be a great convenience to inspectors, who frequently find occasion to refresh their minds on details of grade specifications while at work in car or warehouse. Those who desire to index these books can do so by tabs attached to the long margins of the sheets.

8c. LISTS OF LETTUCE CARS INSPECTED IN ARIZONA.

Arrangements have been made through E. E. Conklin, Jr., to have lists of cars of lettuce, which are inspected in the Phoenix district, mailed to all offices west of Pittsburgh. These car numbers will also be included from day to day on the Washington lists. and so will be available in the eastern markets before the cars have arrived.

9c. REVISED GRADES FOR SPINACH.

With this D.L., each inspector will receive a copy of the revised Federal grades for spinach.

10c. ADDITIONAL REPORTS ON FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS:

F.S.:A-85,"The Imperial Fruit Show." F.S.:N-12, "The Brazil Nut Situation." F.S.:P-24, "The Yugoslav Prune Market."

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

RECEIVING-POINT INSPECTIONS DURING NOVEMBER, 1926.

Markets	Total Inspections	Total Same Month 1925	Inspections for Carriers	Declined for Lack of Time	Total Fees
Atlanta	94	100	2	0	$391.50
Baltimore	37	43	1	0	145.00
Boston	141	210	26	0	587.00
Buffalo	56	23	5	0	219.50
Charlotte	1	0	0	0	5.00
Chicago	432	388	3	0	1751.50
Cincinnati	56	69	0	1	265.50
Cleveland	109	43	9	0	498.00
Columbus	30	25	0	0	118.50
Denver	10	14	0	0	40.00
Detroit	66	67	2	0	264.00
Fort Worth	83	43	0	0	332.00
Harrisburg	3	3	1	0	13.00
Houston	62	64	0	0	183.00
Indianapolis	34	41	2	0	139.50
Jacksonville	33	0	0	1	132.50
Kansas City	130	129	12	0	514.50
Los Angeles	29	13	0	0	121.00
Memphis	31	54	22	0	127.50
Milwaukee	24	33	1	0	95.50
Minneapolis	31	67	0	0	131.00
Newark	-	67	-	-	- -
New Haven	61	45	3	3	257.00
New Orleans	140	138	88	7	579.00
New York	886	1380	21	0	3640.75
Norfolk	19	46	2	0	82.00
Omaha	25	25	0	5	101.00
Philadelphia	89	115	8	0	353.50
Pittsburgh	191	220	35	1	807.00
Portland	15	29	0	0	62.50
Raleigh	-	3	-	-	- -
St. Louis	141	184	0	0	569.00
Salt Lake City	2	2	0	0	9.00
San Diego	-	5	-	-	- -
San Francisco	8	3	0	0	34.00
Trenton	8	0	0	0	33.00
Washington	28	42	3	0	116.00
Wilkes-Barre	13	15	1	0	57.00
TOTALS	3118	3748	247	18	$12775.75

INSPECTIONS FOR THE NAVY AND MARINE CORPS DURING NOVEMBER, 1926.

SYMBOLS:- N - Navy M - Marine Corps	ALL FIGURES IN THESE COLUMNS REPRESENT POUNDS				
	Fruits and Vegetables PASSED	Fruits and Vegetables REJECTED	TOTAL QUANTITY INSPECTED	"Cuts" Made to Comply with Specifications	Items Billed Short-weight
Stations	N M	N M	N M	N M	N M
BOSTON	146126 1607	4775 0	150901 1607	125 0	0 0
NEW YORK	264669 113094	6500 543	271169 113637	126 0	0 0
NORFOLK	NO SUPPLY SHIPS LOADED AT NORFOLK DURING NOVEMBER				
PHILADELPHIA	312371 23421	1495 15	313866 23436	1125 303	0 0
SAN DIEGO	680028 36676	39085 925	719113 37601	0 680	0 0
SAN FRANCISCO	168333 0	20100 0	188433 0	0 0	0 0
SAN PEDRO	972487 0	2943 0	975430 0	390 0	0 0
VALLEJO	197596 31399	6646 103	204242 31502	989 10	0 0
WASHINGTON	37842 0	415 0	38257 0	0 0	0 0
TOTALS	2779452 206197	81959 1586	2861411 207783	2755 993	0 0
INSPECTIONS MADE FOR U.S.SHIPPING BOARD					
NEW YORK	34997	0	34997	0	0
NORFOLK	33240	0	33240	170	0
TOTALS	68237	0	68237	170	0

The New York office also inspected the following:	Vegetables	Fruits	Rejections
United States Lines	247217	88396	40389
Munson Line	51334	14616	2056
American France Line	10542	2886	6
American Diamond Line	16663	3685	370
American Merchant Line	24821	4563	210
American African Line	6466	1527	-
TOTALS	357043	115673	43031

In addition to the above, the Vallejo office inspected and passed the following for the Navy: 26395 lbs. bread and 260 lbs. rolls.

In addition to the above, the San Pedro office inspected the following:

Bread 9,169 lbs.
Butter16,287 "
Cheese 2,795 "
Total-28,251 lbs.

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Sherman, of the Washington office, and E.R. Biddle, of the Philadelphia office, are scheduled to give talks at the annual meeting of the Potato Association of America , to be held at the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, on December 28 and 29. Mr. Sherman expects to discuss "Changes in Methods of Potato Marketing," and Mr. Biddle's subject is "Terminal Potato Market Preferences."

Mr. Samson is on the December 30 program of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, which organization also will be meeting in Philadelphia. His subject is "Improvement in the Technique of Marketing." There is some possibility that Mr. Samson may not be able to attend this meeting personally. In that event, his paper will be forwarded for reading at the scheduled time.

Members of the Washington staff who returned from the field during the past week include R.R. Pailthorp, J. Wm. Park and J. G. Cross.

B. E. Shaffer plans to leave on December 21 for points in Florida. From that date until the end of the year, he will be on vacation at Clearwater, Fla., after which he will visit numerous citrus-shipping sections to check up the application of the Federal grades for these fruits. He may be absent for about a month.

Mr. Boree went on leave yesterday and will be away until after Christmas. Mr. Stillwell probably will be absent from December 22 to January 3.

On Tuesday, Mr. Samson met with the Research Council in New York City. He also conferred with F. & V. men in our New York office.

R. C. Butner was invited to attend the annual meeting of the National Onion Association, which was held at the Palmer House, Chicago, on December 3. He explained various points in the U.S. grades for northern-grown onions.

During the next few weeks, Dr. D. H. Rose, of B.P.I., will visit some of the large markets, to make a personal study of fruit diseases, etc. He will confer with our inspectors also in the following cities: Philadelphia, New York, Boston and Chicago.

W. H. Mosier, of the Cincinnati office, will be absent on vacation during the last week of December. Other members of the local staff will handle the market reports those few days.

R. E. Corbin, of the Chicago market news staff, expects to be on leave from December 22 to the end of the year.

It is understood that A. E. Prugh will spend his vacation the next 10 days at his home near Radnor, Ohio. After January 1, he probably will come to the Washington office for a short period.

OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

About the last of December, it is expected that C. D. Shirley's headquarters will be moved from San Antonio to the lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas, - probably at Mercedes. He will be in charge of the shipping-point inspection work in that territory during the first six months of 1927. F. M. Longino will take over the spinach inspection work in the vicinity of Crystal City, where Mr. Shirley is now located.

Among the many features and various phases of service in Cincinnati, W. H. Mosier advises that the circulation of market reports through the newspapers is one of the most satisfactory he has ever known. Four daily papers in Cincinnati carry the local reports, and the combined circulation is about 505,000 copies. The fruit and vegetable information of the B.A.E. is used exclusively in these newspapers.

Sam Preston, of the California staff, has opened the shipping-point inspection office at Barbara Worth Hotel, El Centro, Calif. His crew is now working on lettuce shipments.

J. A. Hunter CALLS ATTENTION to the fact that his proper address is: c/o Chamber of Commerce, Aztec Theatre Bldg., San Antonio, Texas. The Chamber of Commerce formerly was located at 132 Losoya Street but has moved, and communications should no longer be sent to that street address, as there is danger of their being lost. A cafe now occupies the quarters at 132 Losoya Street.

HOLIDAYS will be observed in all offices on Saturdays, December 25 and January 1. Four hours will constitute the day's required service in Washington on Friday, December 24. NO DIVISION LETTER will be issued next week. The next copy will be dated December 31.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington, D. C.

Fruit and Vegetable Div. Issued every Friday.

DIVISION LETTER, VOL. 7, NO. 51
Dec. 31, 1926
(Contents Confidential)

NO DIVISION LETTER WAS ISSUED FOR DEC. 24

1a. SHOW GRADES ON PAYROLLS:

Notwithstanding instructions in the Official Record of December 8 and in Par. 1-a of Division Letter for December 17, there was hardly a field payroll submitted for the month of December which showed the grades of the employees. The grades should be shown on the payrolls hereafter.

For the information of those who may not be familiar with the field service grades, the various positions carry the grades indicated below:

Marketing Specialist	Grade 13
Asst. Marketing Specialist	" 11
Jr. Marketing Specialist	" 9
Asst. Clerk	" 7
Junior Clerk	" 6
Under Operative	" 5
Messenger	" 4
Assistant Messenger	" 3
Junior Messenger	" 2

2a. MORE NEWS ON IMPERIAL VALLEY LETTUCE:

The very heavy rainfall of December 8 to 10, which occurred in the lettuce-shipping sections of Imperial Valley, California, caused much damage to lettuce ready for harvesting. Some estimated that 500 carloads were lost, but the rains will benefit the crop coming on in January. Precipitation amounted to about 4 inches and the rain was accompanied by high winds. The Truck Crop Reporter in that State estimates the planted lettuce area in the Valley at 34,400 acres.

3a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR DECEMBER 18:

Page 389 - Markets Take on Holiday Aspect. - (weekly review)
390 - The British Apple Market, Dec. 8.
391 - Difficulties in Northwestern Apple Region, - by A.E. Prugh.
400 - Exportable Surplus of Yugoslav Prunes Reduced.

4a. IN "CROPS AND MARKETS" FOR DECEMBER 25:

Page 405 - Final Crop Reports Issued. (weekly review)
407 - Michigan Has Good Crop of Onions, - by R. H. Shoemaker.
- Produce Situation in Western New York, - by R. L. Sutton.
408 - Michigan Potato Season Reviewed, - by R. H. Shoemaker.
- Costs in Handling Arizona Citrus Fruit.

(Page 625)

MARKET NEWS SERVICE

1b. CREDIT TO WHOM CREDIT IS DUE.

The "Bit of History" of the Market News Service, which appeared in the D.L. for November 12, contained a few errors which we now desire to correct. The compilation had been made in 1919 and presumably had been carefully checked. It is suggested that each person who is interested in the "history" make the following corrections on page 573 of his copy of the D.L.:-

A. E. Prugh (not P. C. Isbell) was the first man in charge of our permanent office quarters in Kansas City.

Our Cincinnati office was first occupied 7-1-16 (not 9-1-16).

Our first permanent quarters in Fort Worth were occupied 7-15-17 at 501 Moore Building (not 10-1-17 at 511 First Natl. Bank Bldg.) Mr. Sullivan was only temporarily at 511 First Natl. Bank Bldg.

Our New Orleans office was first occupied 12-1-17 (not 11-1-17).

Our Jacksonville office was first occupied 11-1-17 (not 12-1-17).

Our Portland office was first located at 220 Oregon Building(not Chamber of Commerce).

Frank A. L. Bloom (not J.H. Hoover) was first in charge of our Oklahoma City office. Mr. Hoover succeeded Mr. Bloom about May 16, 1918.

2b. SMALL SACKS USED FOR POTATOES IN WEST.

The following letter was written by R. L. Ringer, of the Portland office, on December 8:-

"I was much interested in Mr. Stanton's article on smaller sacks for potatoes, published as Par. 1b in the Division Letter of December 3. If that were given to the press in this section of the world, the readers would take it as some new and subtle brand of humor, because they cannot conceive of men tugging away and breaking their backs with 165-pound, 150-pound or even 120-pound sacks of potatoes.

"Western practice has always been to use sacks holding not more than 110 pounds. Possibly it came from the abundant supply of second-hand grain sacks. Up to a few years ago, there were no bulk-grain elevators here and all the grain was sacked. But the present tendency is toward an even smaller package. Many dealers have been putting up potatoes in 100-pound sacks, and now there is a steady and growing demand for 50-pound sacks.

"Not many people in the West dwell in apartment houses, and a large part of the population still buys its potatoes in the original package. The 50-pound unit is appealing as light to handle, easily put in the auto to take home, and giving only a moderate supply for a family. The stock is usually sacked in the small bags at shipping point and stock so prepared is quoted about $2.00 per ton over similar grade in 110-pound sacks."

2½b. TEXAS NEWS SERVICE EXTENDED.

Beginning yesterday, the Texas market news service is now including r reports on tomatoes, cabbage, carrots and beets, for the benefit of growers and shippers in the southern part of the State.

3b. PHILADELPHIA MARKET WAS OVER-SUPPLIED.

In a letter of December 9, E. R. Biddle gave the following account of conditions in Philadelphia:

"The fruit and vegetable market in this city is very sick; so bad that it is almost beyond description in the market reports, - that is, on important commodities. A fair example is the citrus fruits. Movement has been so slow and the auction warehouse so congested with fruit that it was necessary to close down the auction yesterday, December 8. This is the first time that I have known the Auction Company to take such steps."

4b. SUMMARY OF 1926 ASPARAGUS SEASON IN CALIFORNIA.

C. J. Hansen and O. W. Holmes, of the San Francisco office, are authors of a very complete, mimeographed summary of CALIFORNIA ASPARAGUS, SEASON 1926. Copies can be obtained directly from San Francisco; a few copies are available from the Washington office.

5b. FREQUENCY OF REPORTS REDUCED.

Because of the very light movement of sweet potatoes, J. H. Hoover was authorized to reduce the number of mimeographed market reports on sweet potatoes, issued at the Atlanta office. These reports will come out only twice a week for the remainder of the season.

The market reports on fruits and vegetables at Salt Lake City will be issued only thrice-weekly from now until next summer, as supplies are lighter and trading somewhat limited during the winter and spring.

Spokane reports on apples also are being issued only three times a week, on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

New Jersey State market reports, at Trenton, have been reduced from a daily basis to the form of a weekly review.

6b. SUMMARY OF MICHIGAN POTATO SEASON.

The latest summary of reports issued at a field station is MARKETING OF THE MICHIGAN POTATO CROP, 1925-26 SEASON, by R. H. Shoemaker.

7b. REPORTS ON FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS:

The following additional reports have been issued by the Foreign Marketing Section:- F.S.:A-86, "The British Apple Market" Dec. 8. F.S.:A-87, "The German Apple Market." F.S.:A-88, "The British Apple Market" Dec. 15. F.S.:CF-33, "The New Zealand Market for Citrus Fruit." F.S.:CF-35, "Japanese Oranges in Canada." F.S.:P-25, "Exportable Surplus of Yugoslav Prunes Reduced." F.S.:W-12, "French Walnut Crop Prospects." F.S.:W-13, "The Rumanian Walnut Situation." F.S.:N-13, "Notes on the Nut Crops of Italy."

B. C. BOREE,
Marketing Specialist.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS OF MARKET NEWS SERVICE

Station	Mail List	In Charge	Reports	First Bulletin	Probably will close
SPOKANE, WASH. 424 Federal Bldg.	847	Mrs. L.B. Gerry	Apples	Aug.23	Mar. 31
ROCHESTER, N.Y.** 419 Triangle Bldg.	837	R. L. Sutton.	Apples	Sept.10	May 28
			Cabbage	Sept.10	Mar.12
			Celery	Sept.13	Jan.22
			Carrots	Sept.14	Apr.15
			Lettuce*	Sept.14	Oct. 2*
			Pears*	Sept.15	Nov.10*
			Onions	Sept.20	Apr.15
			Peaches*	Sept.23	Oct. 21*
			Potatoes	Oct. 4	May 28
			Grapes*	Oct. 4	Nov. 20*
WAUPACA, WIS.** Court House	894	G.D. Clark	Potatoes	Sept.14	Apr. 2
PRESQUE ISLE,ME. Graves Hardware Block	842	H. E. Rutland	Potatoes	Sept.15	Mar.31
GRAND RAPIDS,MICH.** 29 Norris Bldg.	895	R. H. Shoemaker	Apples*	Oct. 29	Nov. 18*
			Pears*	Oct. 29	Nov. 5*
			Potatoes	Oct. 29	June 1
			Onions	Oct. 29	Apr. 1
IDAHO FALLS,IDAHO 230 Federal Bldg.	845	Wendell Calhoun	Potatoes	Nov. 2	Apr.15
ORLANDO, FLA.** Old Clinic Bldg. MAIL: P.O. Box 188	920	W. H. Hall	CitrusFrt.	Nov. 8	Apr. 15

The following stations will open about dates indicated:

BRAWLEY, CALIF.	933	C. E. Schultz	Lettuce	Jan.10	Apr. 1
SANFORD, FLA:**	910	Unassigned	Celery	Jan.17	Apr.15

** State cooperating. *Reports discontinued.

C. E. Schultz in Los Angeles office.
H. F. Willson in St. Louis office.
A. E. Prugh on leave, Radnor, Ohio.

INSPECTION SERVICE

1c. BRANDING AND MARKING OF CONTAINERS FOR POTATOES IN IDAHO.

The Idaho Department of Agriculture recently published regulations governing the branding and marking of containers for potatoes, which were to be effective January 1, 1927. These regulations required the marking of the grade of the stock and the net weight upon the sacks. They also required the containers in any lot to be of even weight when filled. The putting into effect of these regulations has been held up by a temporary injunction granted on December 29. This action fixed January 15 as the date for hearing the arguments on the constitutional legality of the proposed regulations. If the State Department is sustained, further information regarding the details of these regulations will be published later in the Division Letter.

2c. SEND COPIES OF WIRES TO WASHINGTON REGARDING REVERSALS TO REGIONAL SUPERVISORS:

In order that Regional Supervisors may be promptly informed regarding reversals within their districts, whether of shipping-point or receiving-point certificates, it is requested that copies of wires to Washington recommending reversals be sent to the Regional Supervisor and that he also be advised later by letter of the final action on the car in question.

3c. NEW INSPECTION OFFICE IN TOLEDO.

On January 3, a new office of the Inspection Service will be opened in Room 2, Post Office Bldg., Toledo, Ohio. F. M. Lyle will be in charge. All inspectors should make note of this new office, and each office of the MARKET NEWS SERVICE is requested to advertise in the daily mimeographed reports the establishment of this new headquarters for inspection work.

4c. HEAVY YIELDS OF POTATOES IN MAINE.

Though the average yield of potatoes in Maine this season was 290 bushels per acre, O. N. Harsha has sent photographs of a field near Presque Isle, in which the yield was 186 barrels, or about 510 bushels, per acre. The potatoes were of the Green Mountain variety.

5c. TRAINING CLASS IN CHICAGO.

On Monday, January 3, a new training class for inspectors will be started at the Chicago office. Members of this class are as follows:

H. L. Geer, of the New York inspection office.
H. S. Moles, of Chicago inspection office.
W. A. Hilgeson, of the Chicago staff.
Bryce Morris, of the Chicago market news office.
Harry Sabin, of the Idaho State inspection staff, who will attend the class at State expense.

TEMPORARY HEADQUARTERS OF SHIPPING-POINT INSPECTION WORK

State	Supervisor	Products	Approximate date of Opening	Approximate date of Closing
NEW YORK:	A. E. Mercker, 415 Triangle Bldg., Rochester, N.Y.	Peaches*	Sept. 20	Oct. 15*
		Grapes*	Sept. 20	Nov. 30*
		Pears*	Sept. 20	Dec. 31*
		Apples	Sept. 20	May 1
		Onions	Sept. 20	Apr. 1
		Potatoes	Sept. 20	May 1
		Cabbage	Sept. 20	Apr. 1
MAINE:	O. N. Harsha, Caribou, Maine	Potatoes	Sept. 20	Apr. 15
FLORIDA:	O. G. Strauss, P. O. Box. 186, Orlando, Fla.	Citrus Frt	Oct. 5	Apr. 15
		Vegetables	Nov. 16	Apr. 15
TEXAS:	H. T. Longino, Crystal City, Texas	Spinach	Dec. 10	Feb. 1
	C. D. Shirley, Harlingen, Texas	Vegetables	Jan. 1	June 15

*Inspection completed on products marked with a star.

6c. GRADE SUMMARIES DISTRIBUTED.

Mr. Samson's project has now mailed to all inspectors copies of the grade summaries, mentioned in Par. 7c of the D.L. for December 17.

7c. TRUCK-CROP SITUATION IN LOUISIANA.

C. R. Newton, Supervising Inspector in Louisiana, recently completed a survey of the truck-crop situation in the southwestern part of the State, where the planting of these vegetable crops is progressing on a larger scale than ever before. He believes that lack of experience in this field of production is sure to cause some disappointments and some losses among the newer growers. His letter of December 14 continues as follows:

"Plant lice and worms have hurt and retarded cabbage, of which there are several thousand acres in Lafayette, New Iberia St. Martin and St. Mary parishes. We probably will begin cabbage inspections in these parishes within the next 10 or 15 days. The bunch vegetables, such as carrots and beets, are looking better, on the whole, than anything else, and unless something unexpected happens to prevent we have the assurance of several hundred cars in St. Landry, Evangeline and Assumption parishes."

F. G. ROBB,
Specialist in Inspection.

OFFICE NOTES:

Mr. Lloyd S. Tenny now is Chief of our Bureau. Mr. Tenny had been Acting Chief for several months, and announcement of his appointment as head of the Bureau was made just before Christmas.

Mr. Samson is scheduled to address two meetings next week. On Wednesday, January 5, he will be at Baltimore for the meeting of the Maryland State Horticultural Society, and on January 6 he will address the Massachusetts Fruit Growers' Association, is session at Worcester, on the subject: "How the Massachusetts Apple Grading Law Looks to an Outsider."

Mr. Pailthorp leaves within the next few days for Chicago, Kansas City and Topeka. He will confer with inspectors and others in the two city markets and will attend at Topeka a meeting of State marketing officials and potato growers, where he will discuss the inspection and grading of potatoes.

Visitors to the F. & V. offices in Washington recently included F. H. Scruggs, who is now located at Sanford, Fla., and L. E. Eliff, who is with a soap distributing company in Ohio.

C. D. Shirley has made his headquarters at Harlingen, Texas, instead of Mercedes, while he supervises shipping-point inspections in the Valley.

F. M. Lyle has gone from Chicago to Toledo, Ohio, and is in charge of the new office of the Inspection Service in Toledo. Please make note of this addition on your list of inspection offices.

Bolling Hall, who has been on leave in North Carolina, returned to duty and is now located in the New York City office. Please cancel Charlotte, N. C., from your list of inspection offices.

H. L. Geer, of the New York inspection staff, has gone to Chicago, to join the inspectors' training class.

The lettuce market news service for Imperial Valley this season will be operated from Brawley instead of El Centro. C. E. Schultz will go from Los Angeles to Brawley early in January to open this station.

In a letter received shortly before Christmas, John J. Sullivan, formerly of the F. & V. staff, sent compliments of the season to all who remember him. The letter-head indicates that Mr. Sullivan is Vice-President of the firm, John F. Deegan & Co., Inc., New York City.

On December 20, G. D. Clark was an invited guest at a meeting of the Waupaca (Wis.) Lions Club, and gave an informal talk on market news reports.

Many persons in Washington and in the field have been using up their annual leave the past few days, but by Monday, January 3, everybody will be on the job again and hard at work.

OFFICE NOTES (Continued):

A day or two before Christmas, Mr. Clay's market news section in Washington and the clerical force in the section handling shipment reports each had celebrations, with small Xmas trees and an exchange of inexpensive gifts. The children of some of the families were present to enjoy the treat.

W. F. Allewelt, of the California staff at Sacramento, gave a radio talk on standardization, Wednesday night, December 22. He spoke from Station KGO, of the General Electric Company at San Francisco, - one of the most powerful stations in the West, which has been heard as far as the Atlantic Coast and in the Orient.

H. W. Peterson, of the California inspection staff, has gone from Los Angeles to El Centro temporarily. He is working on the application of the new lettuce grades in Imperial Valley.

THIS ENDS VOLUME 7 OF THE DIVISION LETTER.

Please examine your file for the year 1926, and, if you need any copies to complete the file in your office, please request them immediately.-

The next D.L., to be dated January 7, 1927, will begin Volume 8 of this weekly paper.

HAPPY NEW YEAR! to all.- Editor.